**₹**FILED -RECEIVED \_ENTERED\_SERVED ON COUNSEL /PARTIES OF RECORD 1 Melvin K. Silverman (MS 5178) Melvin K. Silverman & Assoc. 2 2003 JUL 30 P 12: \$8 One Gateway Center **Suite 2600** 3 Newark, NJ 07102 Telephone: (973) 645-9494 Facsimile: (954) 492-0087 4 Admitted pro hac vice 5 Andras Fanfeiro Babero 6 Nevada Bar No. 001658 Andras F. Babero Attorney at Law 7 9500 Hillwood Drive Suite 130 8 Las Vegas, Nevada 89134 Telephone: (702) 474-4100 9 Facsimile: (702) 474-9988 10 Attorneys for Defendant 11 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 12 FOR THE DISTRICT COURT OF NEVADA 13 14 15 CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE 16 ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION, 17 Plaintiffs. 18 VS. Case No.: CV-02-1287-RLH (RJJ) 19 CYRUS MILANIAN and THE NEW LAS VEGAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, 20 LLC. 21 Defendants. 22 **MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN OPPOSITION TO** 23 MOTION TO ENTER JUDGMENT ON SANCTIONS COMES NOW, the Defendants, CYRUS MILANIAN and THE NEW LAS VEGAS 24 DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC., by and through their undersigned counsel, and hereby files 25 the following Memorandum of Law in Opposition to the Plaintiff's Motion for Sanctions, pursuant 26 27 to Rule 7, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Local Rule 7.2: 28 C:\DATA\c/ient.dir\MKS\MILANIAN\mol.01.wpd page 1 of 8

#### **FACTS**

On or about February 19, 2003, this Court issued its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment on the instant case following a Bench Trial on January 21 through January 23, 2003. The Defendants, CYRUS MILANIAN (Hereinafter "Milanian") and THE NEW LAS VEGAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC. (Hereinafter "NLVDC") have taken an appeal of that final order. The Plaintiffs, CAESARS WORLD, INC. (Hereinafter "Caesars") and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION (Hereinafter "Park Place"), have taken a cross-appeal on the issue of attorney's fees and costs.

On or about January 27, 2003, and prior to this Court's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, Milanian, filed a civil action against Caesars and Park Place, in the State Court of New Jersey for causes of action which he perceived were not a part of the instant action in Nevada. Caesars and Park Place removed this action to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. On or about March 24, 2003, Caesars and Park Place filed a Motion for Contempt before this Honorable Court.

On or about May 22, 2003, this Court issued an Order on the Plaintiffs' Motion for Contempt ruling the Defendants "DISMISS WITH PREJUDICE or WITHDRAW their action against Plaintiffs in New Jersey on or before June 2, 2003." The Order further stated that the Defendants were to pay the Plaintiffs \$1,000.00 per day in penalties for every day after June 2, 2003 in which they failed to comply with the Order. (A copy of the Order on Plaintiffs' Motion for Contempt is attached hereto as Exhibit "A.")

Although this Court executed the Order on Plaintiffs' Motion for Contempt on May 22, 2003, the undersigned counsel for the Defendants did not actually received the Order until the date for compliance set forth therein, June 2, 2003. (See Declaration of Philip A. Duvalsaint which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B.") Moreover, there is no Federal Rule of Civil Procedure or Local Rule for the District of Nevada which either expressly authorizes a Plaintiff to "withdraw" a cause of action, or even contemplates the "withdrawl" of a complaint or cause of action. The closest analog to such an procedural act would be a voluntary dismissal of a complaint without prejudice pursuant

to Rule 41, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The confusion and uncertainty on the face of the Order on Plaintiffs' Motion for Contempt caused the Defendants to interpret the meaning and intent of this Court's Order, while still striving to preserve what they considered to be viable causes of action. (See Declaration if Philip Duvalsaint which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B.")

The late receipt of the Order, coupled with the seemingly contradictory language of the Order caused the Defendants to file a Notice of Voluntary Dismissal Without Prejudice subsequent to the date of compliance set forth within the Order on Plaintiffs' Motion for Contempt. (A copy of the Notice of Voluntary Dismissal is attached hereto as Exhibit "C.") Subsequent to the filing of the Notice of Voluntary Dismissal Without Prejudice there was still disagreement between the respective counsel for the parties as to the correct interpretation of the Order. (A copy of the e-mails between counsel is attached hereto as Composite Exhibit "D.") The disagreement resulted in the Defendants' Withdrawal of the Notice of Dismissal Without Prejudice and the Filing of a Notice of Withdrawal, in an effort to comply with the letter of this Court's Order. (A copy of the Withdrawal of the Notice of Voluntary Dismissal Without Prejudice and Notice of Withdrawal are attached hereto as Exhibits "E" and "F," respectively.)

Still subsequent to the Notice of Withdrawal there was still disagreement as to whether the Defendants' had complied with the requirements of the Order on Plaintiffs' Motion for Contempt. The Defendants took, and have always taken, the position that they have made every effort to comply with this Court's Order. The Plaintiffs have taken the position that nothing less than a Dismissal with Prejudice was unsatisfactory. The controversy again left the parties struggling to determine the meaning of the provision to withdraw the cause of action that was set forth within the Order. The Plaintiffs have even conceded there is confusion as to the meaning of the Order in their letter to this Court dated June 9, 2003, and their letter to the New Jersey Court on June 11, 2003. Both letters reference a clarification of the original Order by this Court in order to prevent confusion. (A copy of the Letter date June 9, 2003 and the Letter dated June 11, 2003, are attached hereto as Exhibit "G" and "H," respectively.

The parties appeared by telephone before the New Jersey Court in an effort to clarify the

issue. The New Jersey Court stated that it had never heard of a withdrawal of a complaint or a cause of action as was referenced by the Order on Plaintiffs' Motion for Contempt. Accordingly, it ruled that Notice of Dismissal with Prejudice be filed. However, in order to account for the position of the Defendants, it ruled that should the Appeal in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals be determined in favor of the Defendants, they would be able to refile their cause of action in New Jersey. The parties have ultimately entered into a Stipulation and Order to that effect.

The Plaintiffs have now filed the Motion to Enter Judgment on Sanctions based upon non-compliance with this Court's Order on the Plaintiffs' Motion for Contempt. The Plaintiffs have requested this Court enter an Order awarding them \$14,000.00 in sanctions representing a delay of 14 days when the New Jersey Court ordered the Defendants to file a Notice of Dismissal with Prejudice as set forth above. The Defendants take the positions that the late receipt of the Order coupled with the confusion of all parties as to the meaning of the wording therein rendered them unable to comply with the Court's Order until the New Jersey Court provided clear guidance as to the correct interpretation thereof. Even the New Jersey Court had difficulty with the wording of the Order allowing a withdrawal of the complaint of cause of action. In consideration thereof, the Defendants argue that in good faith they attempted to substantially comply with this Court's Order. As such, the Plaintiffs, who conceded the confusion in a letter to this Court, should not be entitled to any award of sanctions.

The Defendants offer this Memorandum of Law in Support of their position.

#### **ARGUMENT**

A moving party has the burden of proving, by clear and convincing evidence that the parties which it seeks to hold in contempt violated a court order. See, RLI Insurance Company v. Commercial Money Center, Inc., 2002 WL 32081853 (S.D. Cal.). If the moving party is successful in meeting their initial burden of proof, then the burden shifts to the contemnors to demonstrate why they were unable to comply. Id. at 1.

In the Ninth Circuit the legal standard is the contemnors have performed "all reasonable steps within their power to ensure compliance." *Id.* If a fine is to be paid by the contemnors it is to be

based upon the actual loss, if any, of the complainants. *Id.* at 2. Alternatively, if the intent of the Court is to make the defendant comply, the penalty should consider that parties' financial resources and the potential burden to that defendant. *Id.* 

When there is ambiguity or confusion in the order itself, the party that is potentially at fault should not be held in contempt. See, Vertex Distributing, Inc. v. Falcon Foam Plastics, Inc., 689 F.2d 885 (9th Cir. 1982). The terms of a court order should be clear and specific and leave not doubt or uncertainty in the minds of those to whom it is addressed. Id. at 889. If the party's actions appears to be based upon a good faith and reasonable interpretation of the court's order, then they should not be held in contempt. Id.

In the case at bar, the Defendants took all reasonable steps to comply with the Court's Order. The Order gave the Defendants the option of filing a Dismissal of Prejudice of the New Jersey action or to Withdraw their action. The Order did not define what it meant by a Withdrawal, nor is their any guidance in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or Local Rules. Under the circumstances it was reasonable for the Defendants to interpret the Order to mean a Dismissal with Prejudice as being a final act, or a Voluntary Dismissal without Prejudice until the Appeal with the Ninth Circuit is decided. It made no sense to set give the Defendants two alternatives that meant the same thing. When that filing met the disapproval of the Plaintiffs, the Defendants filed a Notice of Withdrawal, in exact compliance with the letter of the Order. However, it still took the wisdom of the New Jersey Court to determine the nature of the document that needed to be filed. These circumstances do not warrant the imposition of a penalty, and certainly not a penalty in the amount of \$14,000.00.

#### **CONCLUSION**

For the reasons set forth above, the Defendants respectfully request this Court to deny the Plaintiffs' Motion for a Judgment of Sanctions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Malvin K Silvern

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been delivered by facsimile and First Class U.S. Mail this 29th day of July, 2003 to:

Stephen W. Feingold Richard H. Brown 

PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP

685 Third Avenue

New York, New York 10017-4024 Facsimile: (973) 966-1550 Facsimile: (212) 682-3485

Gary R. Goodheart, Esq. Patrick A. Rose, Esq. JONES VARGAS 3773 Howard Hughes Parkway

Third Floor South Las Vegas, Nevada 89109 Facsimile (702) 737-7705

### **Table of Authorities** Federal Cases Federal Statutes: Fed. R. Civ. Pro. 7 Nevada District Court Local Rule 7-2 C:\DATA\client.dir\MKS\MILANIAN\mol.01.wpd page 7 of 8

### Exhibit List

Exhibit "A"
Exhibit "B"
Exhibit "C"
Composite Exhibit "D"
Exhibit "E'
Exhibit "F"

Order on Plaintiffs' Motion for Contempt Declaration of Philip A. Duvalsaint Notice of Voluntary Dismissal e-mails between counsel Withdrawal of the Notice of Voluntary Dismissal Without Prejudice Notice of Withdrawal

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page 8 of 8

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN (MS5178) MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC. mks@powerlaw.net One Gateway Center, **Suite 2600** Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 645-9494

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN

Honorable Freda L. Wolfson

Plaintiff

Civil Action No. 03-1259

V.

CAESARS WORLD, INC., and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

Defendants.

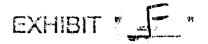
WITHDRAWAL

COMES NOW, Plaintiff CYRUS MILANIAN (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through their undersigned attorney hereby Withdraws Its Complaint in connection with the above styled action against all Defendants.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth S. Goodkind, Esq. FLASTER GREENBERG P.C. 1810 Chapel Avenue West Suite 300 Cherry Hill, NJ 08002-4606 Cherry Hill, NJ (856) 661-2273 ken.goodkind@flastergreenberg.com

Melvin R. Silverman, Esquire (For the firm) MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC. One Gateway Center, Suite 2600 Newark, NJ 07102 Phone: (973) 645-9494 mks@powerlaw.net



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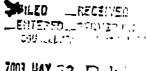
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JONES VARGAS

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BY CEPUTY

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEVADA

CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE )
ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION.

Plaintiffs.

v

CYRUS MILANIAN and THE NEW LAS VEGAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC.,

Defendants,

Case No.: CV-5-02-1287-RLH (RJJ)

ORDER

The Court, having considered Plaintiff; Motion for Contempt (#78) and hearing argument in a duly noticed hearing on May 22, 2003, at which Defendants did not appear, hereby finds Defendants guilty of sivil contempt.

Accordingly, and for good cause appearing.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants DISMISS WITH PREJUDICE CI

WITHDRAW their action against Plaintiffs in New Jersey on or before June 2, 2003.

If IS FURTHER ORDERED that, failing to dismiss with prejudice or withdraw their action in New Jersey, Defendants shall pay to Plaintiffs a panalty of \$1000 per day for every day after June 2, 2003 that they fail to comply with the Court's order.

1 PART A

Dated: May 22, 2003.

05/28/2003 12:08 PAI 7027377705

JONES VARGAS

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II' IS FURTHER ORDERED that the clerk shall send to both parties, by mail and by facsimile, this order today, May 22, 2003.

ROGER D. HUNT United States District Judge

12. 

AQ 72 (Rev. 8/82)

TOTAL P.83

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Melvin K. Silverman (MS) Melvin K. Silverman & Assoc. 500 W. Cypress Creek Rd., Suite 500 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309 Telephone: (954) 351-7474 Facsimile: (954) 492-0087 Admitted pro hac vice  Andras Fanfeiro Babero Nevada Bar No. 001658 Andras F. Babero Attorney at Law 9500 Hillwood Drive Suite 130 Las Vegas, Nevada 89134 Telephone: (702) 474-4100 Facsimile: (702) 474-9988
10	Attorneys for Defendant
11	
12	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
13	DISTRICT OF NEVADA
14 15 16 17	CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION, Plaintiffs, v.  CYRUS MILANIAN, and THE NEW LAS
18	VEGAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, L.L.C.,
19	<b>DECLARATION OF PHILIP A. DUVALSAINT</b>
20	PHILIP A. DUVALSAINT under penalty of perjury, declares:
21	1. I am a resident of the state of Florida.
22	2. I am over the age of 18, and am fully competent to make the herein Declaration.
23	3. I am an attorney licensed to practice in the State of Florida.
24	4. I hereby make this Declaration based upon my personal knowledge.
25	5. I have worked with Melvin Silverman in the case styled Cyrus Milanian, v.
26	Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corp., case Nos. CACE ATL-L-230-03, and
27	03-CV-1259.
28	EXHIBIT : D

6. On or about January 27, 2003, Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian filed a seven (7) count complaint against Defendants Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corp., for Theft of Trade Secrets, Idea Misappropriation, Breach of Express Contract, Breach of Implied Contract, Breach of Confidential Relationship, Misrepresentation, and Detrimental Reliance, in the Superior Court of New Jersey Law, Division, Atlantic County, New Jersey which was assigned Case Number CACE ATL-L-230-03 (collectively hereinafter referred to as the "New Jersey Action"). (A copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A")

- 7. On February 19, 2003, this Court entered its Final Judgment ruling that the claims asserted in the New Jersey Action were compulsory counterclaims. (A copy of the Final Judgment is attached hereto as Exhibit "B")
- 8. On March 18, 2003, Defendants Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place
  Entertainment Corp., filed an Notice of Filing Notice of and Petition for Removal under 28
  U.S.C. § 1446(a). (A copy of the Notice is attached hereto as Exhibit "C")
- 9. On April 17, 2003, Melvin K. Silverman filed Notice of Appearance, and an Objection to Removal/Motion for Remand in the case. (A copy of the Notice of Appearance, and Objection to Removal/Motion for Remand are attached hereto as Exhibits "D" and "E")
- 10. On March 24, 2003, Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corp., filed a Motion for Contempt against Cyrus Milanian. (A copy of the Motion is attached hereto as Exhibit "F")
- 11. On May 2, 2003, I participated in a telephone conference with Judge Freda Wolfson, the U.S. District Court Judge in the New Jersey Action, and counsel for the Defendants, Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corp.
- 12. As a result of that telephone conference, Judge Freda Wolfson stayed the proceedings in the New Jersey Action, pending a ruling on the Contempt Motion from the District Court in Nevada. (A copy of the Order is attached hereto as Exhibit "G")
- 13. On May 23, 2003, this Court issued a contempt order, requiring Cyrus Milanian to either Withdraw his Complaint or Dismiss the Complaint with Prejudice no later than June 2, 2003. (A copy of the Order is attached hereto as Exhibit "H")

- 15. The Contempt Order was received at the Florida office of Melvin K. Silverman, on June 2, 2003.
- 16. The wording of the order caused some confusion, in that the choices of filing either a Withdrawal or Dismissal with Prejudice were stated in the alternative.
- 17. Counsel for Cyrus Milanian therefore interpreted Withdrawal to mean a Dismissal Without Prejudice, until the Appeal with the Ninth Circuit is decided, and overnighted the Dismissal without Prejudice on June 5, 2003 to the clerk of the New Jersey District Court, which was filed on June 6, 2003. (A copy of the Dismissal without Prejudice is attached hereto as Exhibit "I")
- 18. On June 6, 2003 through and including June 18, 2003 Melvin K. Silverman was out of the country.
- 19. On or about June 8, 2003, I had a telephone conversation with counsel for Defendants, Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corp., in which I was told that they did not consider the Dismissal without Prejudice to satisfy this Courts Contempt Order.
- 20. I immediately contacted our local counsel in New Jersey, and asked them to sign and file a motion withdrawing the dismissal without prejudice, and substitute a Withdrawal in its place, and overnighted the Withdrawal, and Motion to Withdraw Voluntary Dismissal without Prejudice to our local counsel. (A copy of the Withdrawal, and Motion to Withdraw Voluntary Dismissal without Prejudice are attached hereto as Exhibits "J" and "K")
- 21. On June 9, 2003, the motion withdrawing the dismissal without prejudice, and the withdrawal were filed.
- 22. On June 16, 2003, I participated in a telephone conference with Judge Freda Wolfson, the U.S. District Court Judge in the New Jersey Action, and counsel for the Defendants, Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corp. To discuss the Nevada Court's Order.
- 23. At the telephone conference, Judge Freda Wolfson ordered the parties to submit an Order of Stipulation of Dismissal, which the parties have been finalized, and submitted to

Judge Freda Wolfson.

24. I declare the above to be true upon penalty of perjury.

July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Philip A. Duvalsaint

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FLASTER/GREENBURG P.C. Considered Center 1810 Chapel Avenue West, 3rd Floor Charry Hall How leaved contracts Fire (856) 661-1908 American for Plaintill

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Superior court of New Iersey

CYRUS MILANIAN

Plainiff.

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CAESARS WORLD, INC. MED PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

Civil Action

LAW DIVISION

ATLANTIC COUNTY DOCKET NO.:

COMPLAINT

Dofordana

CYRUS MELANIAN, by and through the maderaigned exceptive by way of Complaint in

- Plaintiff, Cyrus Millorian ("Afflowine" or "Plaintiff"), is an individual who midden क्षां क्यांटव क्रिक्केंग हमानः in Jersey City, Hardren County, New Jersey.
- Comes World, Inc. ("CW") is a corporation organized and existing under the hand of the State of Provider, and has one office and principal plans of business in Allemia City.
- Park Place Entertainment Corp. ("PP") is a corporation organized and enterting Han Jeray. ender the learn of the Stees of Dolavers, baving an office and principal place of business of Attack City, Non Jersey.
  - CW is a suboily owned subsidiary of P?.
  - On or about May 12, 1996, Miledan submedted as eight-page outline of a confidential expiners plan entitled the "Mortania Project" to CW in Las Vogas, Nevalla.

## CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 4:51

Pursum: to the provisions of Rule 4:5-1, I haraby earlify as follows:

- Except as stand below, the matter in controversy is not the subject of any other beigning series in any other court or of a pending arbitration proceeding in this jurisdiction.
- A related series has been properly in the U.S. District Court in the District of Navada baruces thesi punies explicated as Causara World, line, and Purk Place Entertainment Corporation v. Cyrus Milation and The New Los Vegas Development Comp., LLC, CV-S-02-
  - It is consequent that the matter in compoversy will not become the subject of 1287-814-811 क्षप्र क्ष्मित व्यांत्म हेत क्षप्र कार्या क श व parking क्षमंग्रमांक म्वत्यांत्री
    - Plaintiff is not means of any other party that reads to be joined in this proceeding. I hereby certify that the forespoint statements made by the are true. I am aware that if any म कि विस्तुवंत इंतरकात्म इन जीतियों विशेष । यह स्मिन्य के व्यवस्थान

FLASTER FREENBERG P.C.

Anomy for Plaint

## DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL.

Keneral S. Goodfind, Rogairo is borody designated as trial coursel for Plahaill.

FIASTER PRESNESS C.P.C.

Detect January 24, 2009

for Plainis

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- The replica Collegian was to include an entendenment complex including रकारकारता, फिल्माच्य केव्हा राजे कृत्यंत्री स्थवाडः
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- By loan deed Augus 12, 1996, CW destined to further consider the Mariania Project and action wirely at the confidentiality of Plaintiff's submission.
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  - The construction of the replice described in the proceeding purious was identical 13. क मेंड दिन विकास्त्रिकों विकासी के शिर्वाणित
  - Despite the fact that Plaintiff had presented the idea of constructing a rapides of the Colleges of Rome as an extension of the CW and PP properly in Las Vegas, Defendants failed to provide Peinliff with any credit, recognition, comparestion or recognition in any COTTA. .

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  - 18. Price to the disclosure of the Phimilit's new concepts and plans in connection Stain directed to Reme's Colingan भाग कि मिल्निको निर्णुक्त क Defadert, केला सेंसे कर कांच क स्वयानंत्रकत कलाने व क्लिंग्सेस Roma's Collegian and instruction restaurants, thankes, there and special energy.
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      - 30. Philadiff's wade saurale congite Defendants, in business and legal corms. connected value to Defendants व्यवस्थान, क्रांक्टिंड कर्न तम्ब्राह व्यां त्राह्महरूकार्यांक विश्वस्थाति विद्या प्रकार तहांक्ट तहांक्ट content information and coccepts disclosed to Defendants.
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- Plaintiff, at all times, undercook responsible afforts under the circumstances to maintain the excrety and confidentiality of his trads secrets and of all disclarates to made to Differdants and their agents, which disabistives were all made in confidence.
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  - Plaintiffs trade secrets thereby provided to Defendants का क्षेप्रमाधक्र आरोज का opportunity to obtain an advantage, that they would not otherwise have had.
  - Defendant, using improper means, knowingly misepproprieted Phintill's trads secrets with willful and malicious intent to deprive Plaintill of his imallement preperty and of गंद्रीय निर्धि फिल्म्बें के कार्यान्य प्रत्यानिकांस्त्रे प्रत्य बार्च संस्थितम्ब की शिक्षांस्थित प्रत्ये स्थालक
    - Cofardure thereby willfully and maliciously mississimpriated Plaintiff's trade 2&
    - Plaintiff has been greatly damaged by Defendants' missippropriation of his unds eccets, to the destinates of Plaineill 27. secreta and Defendents have been unjustly excitated.

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### CONVILI IDEA MISAFFROPRIATION

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- Defendants were sided in the development of their own concerns and products by 30. the missporopriation of Plaimiff's ideas.
  - Plaind IT sides was coved at the time that it was presented to Defendants.
- Plaintiff's idea was also disclosed in confidence, as the Defordants themselves 31. have admitted and certified
- As a direct and prominent result of Delendard's actions, Plaintiff has summined

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor against Defendants for entenantial demagne क्यानेक्यतावाते कृत्याचीत्र क्याक्येक्यांत्र कृत्याचीत्र क्रांत्राचेत्र क्रांत्राचीत्र क्रांत्राचीत्र क्रांत्राचीत्र वीउन्नाइन्यामा वो माधीय धार्य थाए जन्मे व्योक्त माधि हा प्रेपंत Court देशमा है। वा वार्य सम्मावनां हाउ

# BREACH OF EXPRESS CONTRACT

- The praceding paragraphs are incorporated hundr by reference as if so, forth at Length
- Defendence expressly agreed that the Hartonia Project, as well as the information व्यवेकांत्र के प्रश्निकांति क्या क्यारिकांत्र धार्य क्याप्त का स्थाप क्यारिकांत्री.
- By agreeing in writing to maintain the confidentiality of Plaintiff's Marlania 35. Project, an express exercised aroses between the partiess.
- Defendants agreed that they would not within Phintiff's information unless ध्यारेटतंत्रको १० देव ४०.
- 37. Defendants used Plaintiff's Marienla Project, including trade secrets and proprietary rights, in conscious disregard of their duty to coloin Plaintiff's permission to do so.
  - Defendants era in branch of the contract.

- 30. Plaintiff has not reneived legal or equivable consideration under this current communication to the value of the consideration Defendants received from Plaintiff.
- 40. Printill has suffered, and continues to suffer, here as a direct and pressinate frank of such breach including her not limited to, economic harm.
  - 41. There will and emissions of Defended execultured a mountal breach of its contrart with Plaintiff thereby empired him to suffer irreparable harm.

WHEREFORE, Phiraill demands judgment in his favor against Defendents for compensatory damages, consequential damages, exemplary duringes, anomalys for and court, disappropriate of profits and any such other relief as this Court decema just and appropriate.

## COUNT IV EXPLOI OF IMPLIED CONTRACT

- 42. The preceding puragraphs are incorporated herein by reference as if sex forth
- 11. Defendant fresty, knowingly and willingly obtained Plaintiff's confidential proprietary information and manarials described barein personne to as understanding that, and proprietary information and manarials described barein personne to as understanding that, and proprietary information and manarials described barein personne to as understanding that, and proprietary information of the conditions that, they was not to be used without Plaintiff's finite written personnel or annual and adequate comparation.
  - As each, as implied contract arose by operation of law between Plaintiff and
    Defendants.
  - 45. The terms of this contract were that Defender's would compensate Plaintiff if they or their agents dischard or need or otherwise beautiful from any of the ideas, concept, market research, business plans, consents and other marchiness and items of Plaintiff.

- 46. Defendants did, in Inc., knowingly and intentionally use, disclass and otherwise derive benefit from Plaintiff's ideas, conseque, market research, business plans, contents and other transfels and items in conscious disregard of Plaintiff's rights under said implied contract.
- 47. Plaintiff has new received any equitable or legal consideration under said implied consect.
  - 43. Defections have thereby been unjurily sericized as a result of their wrongfully acquired gales from Plaintiff to the decriment of Plaintiff.
  - 49. Plaintiff is thereby entitled to restration for the impute entitional of Defendants attended to their development and use, prosent and fature, of all appropriated ideas, conseque, market research, business plant, conseque and other materials of Plaintiff, as described above.

WHEREFORE, Flaintiff demands judgment in his layer against Delandams for compensatory demands, consequential damages, exemplary damages, amoneya feet and count, dispersations of profits and any seek of an table to be Court teams just and appropriate.

## COUNT IV BREACH OF CONFIDENTIAL RELATIONSHIP

- 50. The preceding purposes are incorporated herein by reference as if see forth at
- largeti.

  51. A confidencial relationship areas and then existed bankers Plaintiff and
  Defendances

- Defendants, by their acts described herein, knowingly and intensionally breached the express and implied terms of said confidential relationship with the specific intent to profit these expressions.
  - 53. Plaintiff has maither commented to not estherized the use or disclosure of any of his ideal, concepts, market research, business plant, consults and other materials and items by any and has otherwise and absorboard some.
    - 54. Plaintiff did not have record to suspen that such a breach of confidence would cover, during or after the period in which be disclosed by ideas, corresponding to market records, business place, correct and other markets to Defendants.
      - 55. Defendants were entered that their breach of said confidential retailorship halped them to find little use of Princial's confidentially disclosed ideas, concepts, market research, business plans, contacts and other metanishs.
      - 56. Defendents have been unjustly enriched by their breach of this confidential relationship with Philippiff, this to the detriment of Philippiff.

WHEREFORE, Plantiff terrands judgment in his favor against Defendance for compensationy durings a consequential demanded, exemplary durings, exempla face and come, disparament of profes and any such other reliables this Court document and expectation.

### COUNT Y MISREPRESENTATION

- 57. The proceeding personable are incorporated based by reference as if see forth at least.
- 53. If idiored to use Pialitiff's ideas, distrib, implicits and excepts it all.

  Definitions had a story to inform Pialitiff of their interstant to use Plaintiff's ideas, thereigns.

methods and concepts in the construction of a raphes of the Coliscent of Rome as an extension of their property in Les Veges prior to actually deling so.

- Defendants did not exercise restorable care in processing Plaintill's 1996 हाकेतांकांक्य कर्म वंश्री हत्य communicate का Plaintiff फेशं पान शिक्षांकर (स्पृत्रतीत के Coliseum ¤oj≋±
- In cross to inches Plaintiff to share his confidential proposal, Defendants 60. त्मारकारास्त्रं प्रेया हो। विकासमांका क्यापे स्थानंत व्यापिकारंत्रो.
- Milmin relied upon these representations when he disclosed the elements of the Maria Project to Defendance.
  - These representations were falso when made.
  - The Defendants had estual or constraints knowledge of their filety sadder देश्वाद प्रमान प्रत्य हमायक विनित्त क्षेत्र । स्थान विनित्त क्ष्मान विनित्त
  - 64. As a proximate result of Defendents' misrepresentations, Plaintiff has suffered क्रिक्समां श्रे क्रान्यकृत

WHEREFORE, Phintill commes judgment in his favor against Defendants for क्रमकेष्मक्रम् द्रमानक्रियं क्ष्मक्रमेश्व क्ष्मक्रियं क्षम्भियो द्रमानव्ये भारतक्षेत्र (अप सम् क्ष्मं क्ष्मं व्यक्तिकार्य वा क्रवांत अप कार्य कार्य क्रवांत विश्व है क्रिया क्रिया क्रिया क्रिया क्रिया क्रिया क्रिया क्रिया

### COUNT VI DEFRIMENTAL RELIANCE

- The providing paragraphs are improved bareis by reference as if and lord) is £3
- Debotes provided Plaintiff that all Information provided would remain leagth. 66. confidential.

- 67. Defendants should have expected that Milanian would rely on the promise.
- 65. Plaintiff this in fact rely upon this promise, to his substantial dattiment
- 69. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' brouch, the Plaintiff has suffered substantial damages.

WHEREFORE, Phinall demands judgment in his favor against Defectants for componentary demands, consequential demands, examplery demands entermys fees and costs, disprepared of profits and any such other miles as this Coun deems just and expreprises.

## JURY TRIAL DEMAND

Demand is bareby made for a trial by jury.

FLASFER GREENBERG P.C.

Dated: January 24, 2003

smale Condita Esquire

TOTAL PARTY

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CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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LANCE S. WILSON BY YES

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

### DISTRICT OF NEVADA

CAESARS WORLD, INC. and
PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT
CORPORATION,
Plaintiffs,
Plaintiffs,
Structure of the property of the propert

This matter having come on for trial before the bench on January 21-23, 2003, and the Court having heard the testimony of witnesses and received evidence, the Court makes the following Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law, and enters Judgment thereon as follows:

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

#### A. The Parties

1. Plaintiff Caesars World, Inc. ("CWI") is a Florida corporation, with its principal place of business at 3930 Howard Hughes Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109.

EXHIBIT \* B

- 2. Plaintiff Park Place Entertainment Corporation ("PPE") is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of business at 3930 Howard Hughes Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109.

  CWI is a wholly owned subsidiary of PPE.
- 3. Defendant Cyrus Milanian is an individual domiciled in New Jersey who transacts business in the State of Nevada.
- 4. Defendant The New Las Vegas Development Company, LLC, is a Nevada limited liability corporation.

### B. <u>Plaintiffs Claims For Relief</u>

- 5. Plaintiffs' initial complaint included five causes of action. Count One seeks declaratory judgment that Plaintiffs are not infringing any rights of Defendants by virtue of their use of the mark COLOSSEUM for a new entertainment venue at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.
- 6. Count Two alleges that Defendants are infringing Plaintiffs' rights in their COLOSSEUM common law trademark in violation of the Lanham Act.
- 7. Count Three alleges that Defendants are infringing Plaintiffs' rights in their COLOSSEUM common law trademark in violation of the Nevada law.
- 8. Count Four alleges that Defendants are violating Plaintiffs' rights in their EMPIRE family of marks, in violation of the Lanham Act.
- 9. Count Five alleges that Defendants are violating Plaintiffs' rights in their EMPIRE family of marks, in violation of Nevada law.
- 10. At the conclusion of Plaintiffs' case the Court granted Plaintiffs' motion to amend the Complaint to conform to the evidence under Rule 15(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. (Tr. 473-474). Plaintiffs are filing an Amended Complaint, which adds Count Six seeking a

declaratory judgment that Plaintiffs have not violated any claims. Defendant Milanian may have either for breach of contract, theft of trade secret, misappropriation or conversion, based on Milanian's purported 1996 proposal to CWI with respect to the construction at Caesars Palace of a replica of the ancient Roman Coliseum. While the Amended Complaint still includes the claims against NLVD (Counts 1-5), NLVD has been dismissed from this action.

#### C. The Plaintiffs

- 11. PPE is the world's largest gaming company owning, managing or having an interest in 27 properties operating under various trademarks including the famous CAESARS, BALLY'S, GRAND CASINO, PARIS, and FLAMINGO brands. (Tr. 49). In 1999, PPE acquired CWI in a transaction that included Caesars Palace, located in Las Vegas, Nevada, CWI's trademarks, and other CWI assets. (Tr. 51). In addition to gaming services, both PPE and CWI provide hotel and restaurant services, convention facilities and services, sporting events, concerts, and other entertainment to the public. (Tr. 66).
- 12. Plaintiffs' premiere property is Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Nevada, which opened on August 6, 1966. (Tr. 49, 51). Caesars Palace has an opulent Roman-Grecian theme, with rnarble statuary, and stylized designs that reflect the theme, and facilities that bear the names associated with ancient Rome and Greece. (Tr. 51).
- Trademark Office ("USPTO"), relating to this Roman-Grecian theme, including, but not limited to: CAESARS (Reg. No. 0954684– incontestable (Ex. 463-K); Reg. No. 0983525– incontestable (Ex. 463-N); Reg. No. 1527770– incontestable (Ex. 463-AL); Reg. No. 1988107– incontestable (Ex. 463-BB)), CAESARS (stylized) (Reg. No. 1001363– incontestable (Ex. 463-O); Reg. No.

0954637- incontestable (Ex. 463-AC); Reg. No. 1527771- incontestable (Ex. 463-AM)), CAESARS PALACE (Reg. No. 0907693- incontestable (Ex. 463-A), Reg. No. 0951262incontestable (463-T); Reg. No. 0963820- incontestable (Ex. 463-R); Reg. No. 0963656incontestable (Ex. 463-U); Reg. No. 1091551- incontestable (Ex. 463-AR)), CAESARS PALACE (stylized) (Reg. No. 0907696- incontestable (Ex. 463-D); Reg. No. 0968212- incontestable (Ex. 463-V); Reg. No. 1090494-- incontestable (Ex. 463-F); Reg. No. 1004058-- incontestable (Ex. 463-S); Reg. No. 1158035- incontestable (Ex. 463-AG)), I, CAESAR (Reg. No. 0907694-- incontestable (Ex. 463-B); Reg. No. 0966734- incontestable (Ex. 463-W)), CIRCUS MAXIMUS (Reg. No. 0965251- incontestable (Ex. 463-E)), THE PALACE (Reg. No. 1096310 - incontestable (Ex. 463-G); Reg. No. 1128428- incontestable (Ex. 463-M)), A CAESARS WORLD RESORT (Reg. No. 1063525 - incontestable (Ex. 463-H)), Roman Edging Paper Design (Reg. No. 0947706incontestable (Ex. 463-I); Reg. No. 1194868- incontestable (Ex. 463-AJ)), CAESARS WORLD (Reg. No. 0995419- incontestable (Ex. 463-Y)), CAESARS WORLD (stylized) (Reg. No. 0995418- incontestable (Ex. 463-X)), THE PALACE COURT (Reg. No. 1128000- incontestable (Ex. 463-AD)), CLEOPATRA'S BARGE (Reg. No. 0979106- incontestable (Ex. 463-P); Reg. No. 1138113- incontestable (Ex. 463-AF)), SPANISH STEPS (Reg. No. 1146922- incontestable (Ex. 463-AH)), CAESARS TAHOE (Reg. No. 1263220- incontestable (Ex. 463-AK); Reg. No. 1191413- incontestable (Ex. 463-AW)), CAESARS TAHOE (stylized) (Reg. No. 1186958incontestable (Ex. 463-AU); Reg. No. 1201555- incontestable (Ex. 463-AV); Reg. No. 1201511incontestable (Ex. 463-AX)), CAESARS WOMAN (Reg. No. 1532553- incontestable (Ex. 463-AQ)), CAESARS WOMAN (stylized) (Reg. No. 1531548 - incontestable (Ex. 463-AN)), CAESARS MAN (Reg. No. 1531549 - incontestable (Ex. 463-AO)), CAESARS MAN (stylized)

(Reg. No. 1538771 – incontestable (Ex. 463-AP)), CAESARS PALACE LAS VEGAS – NE-VADA with Grape Girl Design (Reg. No. 1168663 – incontestable (Ex. 463-AS)), TOGA TEDDY (Reg. No. 1676542 – incontestable (Ex. 463-AT)), CAESARS MAGICAL EMPIRE (Reg. No. 2630525 (Ex. 463-AY)), EMPERORS CLUB (Reg. No. 1743663 – incontestable (Ex. 463-AZ)), FERENTINA (Reg. No. 2022361 – incontestable (Ex. 463-BA)), EMPERORS EVERYDAY GIVEAWAY (Reg. No. 1837096 – incontestable (Ex. 463-BC)), THE FORUM SHOPS AT CAESARS (Reg. No. 1829004 – incontestable (Ex. 463-BD)) LA PIAZZA (Reg. No. 1649800 – incontestable (Ex. 463-BE)), and CAESARS PALACE AT SEA (Reg. No. 1663829 – incontestable (Ex. 463-BF)), Grape Girl Design (Reg. No. 0884317 – incontestable (Ex. 463-C)), PALACE RESERVE (Reg. No. 1644190 – incontestable (Ex. 463-AB)).

14. These registered trademarks are used in interstate commerce, are valid and all but one, CAESARS MAGICAL EMPIRE, is incontestable. (Tr. 264). Because of CWI's outstanding reputation in the hospitality industry and the millions of dollars dedicated to its promotion, the CAESARS name is among the most famous in the industry and is world-renowned. (Tr. 119).

### D. CWI's COLOSSEUM Mark

When it opened in August 1966, CAESARS PALACE included 680 guest rooms, a 980-seat showroom branded as CIRCUS MAXIMUS, a GARDEN OF THE GODS pool-spa complex, and a 35,000 square foot convention center called THE COLOSSEUM Convention Complex. (Tr. 51). Newspaper articles describing the opening of CAESARS PALACE property included references to THE COLOSSEUM convention center. (Tr. 54). At the time of the opening, Caesars Palace produced and distributed brochures and press releases that identified THE COLOSSEUM convention center. The materials use the same stylistic devices to distinguish THE

COLOSSEUM (e.g. Italics or all caps) as used to distinguish designations such as CAESARS PALACE or CIRCUS MAXIMUS that would become federally registered. (Tr. 60-61, 73-74, Ex. 124, 126). Those brochures and press releases were circulated in interstate commerce. This COLOSSEUM convention center in no way resembled the ancient Roman Coliseum. It did not have elevated seating and was rectangular in shape. (Tr. 51-53; Ex. 115)

- 16. THE COLOSSEUM has been used to designate many different services offered in relation to the convention center at Caesars Palace. (Ex. 124). Based on the testimony and exhibits admitted at trial, it is clear that these services include entertainment services such as headliner acts, televised events, live boxing and other sports events. (Tr. 99-103). THE COLOSSEUM was also used in connection with casino and gaming services such as annual slot tournaments and sports betting services. (Tr. 98-101, 105-108, Ex. 118, 442-M, 442-N, 442-L).
- 17. For instance, Exhibit 121 and 122 are examples of a ticket and invitation sent to select people on CWI's mailing list promoting its Super Bowl party. Such Super Bowl parties were held, with perhaps one or two exceptions, each year in THE COLOSSEUM facility and featured gaming services. (Tr. 98-100, Ex. 121, 122). In order to comply with Nevada State gaming regulations, one portion of THE COLOSSEUM facility was specially remodeled to include overhead cameras and other security to comply with Nevada gaming regulations. (Tr. 98). THE COLOSSEUM brand was also used in connection with food and banquet services. (Tr. 96-102, Tr. 104-108 Ex. 121, 122, 442-A, 118, 442-L, 442-M, 442-N). Since August of 2001, Plaintiffs have also offered for sale coffee mugs, bar soap and candles in various sizes bearing THE COLOSSEUM mark. (Tr. 121-122, Ex. 442-O).

. . . .

- 18. Since the opening of Caesars Palace in April of 1966, it is estimated that at least 10,500,000 people have enjoyed some service offered under THE COLOSSEUM trademark at Caesars Palace. (Tr. 117).
- under THE COLOSSEUM mark. For instance, *Meeting & Conventions Magazine* awarded
  Caesars Palace the Gold Key Award for its hotel and convention services. This is an annual award given to the finest meeting properties worldwide, with winners nominated and chosen by Meetings & Conventions corporate, incentive and association meeting planner subscribers. *Meetings in the West* voted Caesars Palace one of the top 50 properties in the West for meetings based on a readers survey. Caesars Palace was also awarded the 2000 Award of Excellence for its services for corporate meetings and incentive travel by subscribers to *Corporate & Incentive Travel Magazine*. (Tr. 117-121). The advertisements placed by CWI heralding these accomplishments included prominent references to THE COLOSSEUM mark. (Tr. 117-118, Ex. 113, 137).
- 20. Since the opening in 1966 CWI has spent many millions of dollars promoting CAESARS PALACE. Deborah Munch, Vice President of Public Relations, testified that because THE COLOSSEUM mark is usually used in combination with CAESARS PALACE or another version of the CAESARS mark, it is difficult for CWI to provide an exact estimate of the amount of monies expended promoting THE COLOSSEUM mark. (Tr. 132). Based on reliable estimates, the Court finds that CWI expended at least some amount over \$19 million in promoting THE COLOSSEUM mark since the opening of CAESARS PALACE in 1966 until 2000. (Tr. 133).
- 21. The showroom at the Caesars Indiana gaming vessel bears the name COLOS-SEUM. It in no way resembles the ancient Roman Coliseum. Like the COLOSSEUM Convention

 Center at Caesars Palace, it is rectangular in shape and does not have elevated seating. (Tr. 123). When CWI opened that showroom in November 2000, it issued promotional materials for the entertainment services offered in THE COLOSSEUM showroom in interstate commerce, and the opening was reported in the press. (Tr. 125-127, Ex. 132, 133, 134, 135, 136).

- 22. CWI also established a series of four hotels in Pennsylvania known as the Caesars Pocono Resorts. The main restaurant at Cove Haven, one of the 4 resorts constituting Caesars Poconos, was and is called THE COLOSSEUM. (Tr. 128-129). When PPE acquired CWI in 1999, it did not acquire Caesars Poconos. However, as part of the transaction, CWI has licensed the buyer to use certain trademarks, including the CAESARS and COLOSSEUM marks. (Tr. 128). THE COLOSSEUM dining room at Caesars Poconos has an exterior whose high arches and columns resemble the original Coliseum amphitheater from the ancient Roman Empire. (Ex. 151). The dining room is advertised on the Internet as THE COLOSSEUM dining room. (Tr. 130, Ex. 131). Ms. Munch testified that the licensee reports that from the opening in approximately 1980 until 1999, over \$50 million has been spent in promoting Cove Haven, including the restaurant services offered under THE COLOSSEUM mark. Ms. Munch also testified, based on information provided to her in the normal course of business, the Caesars Poconos resort has served more than 1,000,000 customers in THE COLOSSEUM dining room since its opening. (Tr. 128-132). The Court credits this testimony, which was not rebutted in any way.
- 23. As a result of the thousands of people who have utilized the various services offered at the convention center in Las Vegas under THE COLOSSEUM trademark, eaten at THE COLOSSEUM dining room in Pennsylvania, attended a performance at THE COLOSSEUM showroom in Indiana, purchased merchandise sold in connection with THE COLOSSEUM

trademark, and the extensive promotion by CWI of THE COLOSSEUM mark in connection with the services referenced above, the Court finds there is considerable association by the public of COLOSSEUM with CWI, and Caesars Palace in particular.

24. The strength of THE COLOSSEUM mark is also reflected by the extensive use by third parties of THE COLOSSEUM mark in association with CWI. Since 1981, THE COLOSSEUM has been referred to in association with CAESARS properties in numerous articles in news journals nationally and internationally. (Tr. 328-334, Ex. 181-186, Ex. 188-276, Ex. 280, 288, 299-320, 326-334, 337-357, 360-416, 418-419).

### E. <u>CWI's EMPIRE Family of Marks</u>

- 25. CWI has used several marks with respect to their properties that incorporate the EMPIRE mark. The marks EMPIRE (Ex. 441-AU), and THE ROMAN EMPIRE (441-X), (together with other marks identified below, the "EMPIRE Family of Marks") have been used synonymously with CAESARS PALACE and the services offered there from since at least 1968, as evidenced by a wide variety of promotional materials.
- been used on maps of the Caesars property entitled "GUIDE TO THE EMPIRE." (Tr. 64-66, Ex. 114, 441-E, 441-D). The EMPIRE mark has also been used in promotional materials in numerous ways including ONWARD TO THE EMPIRE (Ex. 125), EXPERIENCE AN EMPIRE (Ex. 441-AJ), and BEHOLD THE EMPIRE (Ex. 441-P). Until recently, Caesars Palace offered special entertainment at CAESARS MAGICAL EMPIRE (Ex. 463-AY). As a large public facility, Caesars Palace is constantly renovating, modifying, or simply maintaining its physical structure. Whenever this occurs, CWI as does virtually every public facility places a sign apologizing for

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25 26 any inconvenience. However, CWI customizes these notices to fall within its Roman-Grecian theme and headlines these notices with the trademarks REBUILDING AN EMPIRE (Ex. 441-Y) or THE EMPIRE EXPANDS (Ex. 441-AM, 441-AL). For the past three years, a neon sign reading WELCOME TO THE EMPIRE hangs above an entrance at Caesars Palace. (Tr. 141-142, Ex. 441-AX). CWI has also used the mark THE JEWEL OF THE EMPIRE to distinguish Caesars Palace from its other Caesars properties. (Tr. 67-68, 124, 134).

- CWI uses the EMPIRE Family of Marks at its other Caesars facilities. Caesars 27. Indiana distinguishes itself from its sister properties as THE GLORY OF THE EMPIRE (Tr. 124), inviting people to EXPERIENCE AN EMPIRE (Ex. 441-AJ) and watch THE EMPIRE'S TOUGHEST GLADIATORS (Ex. 441-AO, 441-AP). CAESARS ATLANTIC CITY offers guests a guide to RESTAURANTS OF THE EMPIRE, as well as pamphlets, which say WELCOME TO THE EMPIRE CAESARS ATLANTIC CITY (Tr. 67, Ex. 441-E). Caesars Tahoe identifies itself within the group of Caesars properties as the MOUNTAIN EMPIRE (Tr. 134).
- CWI is also the owner of three additional relevant registrations namely CAESARS 28. MAGICAL EMPIRE (Registration No. 2,630525) (Ex. 463-AY), the EMPERORS CLUB (Registration No. 1,743663) (Ex. 463-AZ), and EMPERORS EVERYDAY GIVEAWAY (Registration No. 1,837096) (Ex. 463-BC).
- The foregoing demonstrates Plaintiffs' use of the EMPIRE Family of Marks dates 29. back to at least 1968, and that the amount Plaintiffs have invested in using and promoting the EMPIRE Family of Marks in interstate commerce is a multiple of the substantial amounts expended on behalf of THE COLOSSEUM mark. (Tr. 134-149, Ex. 441-A & B, 441D-F, 441-K-M, 441-P, 441-X & Y, 441-AE, 441-AI – AS, 441-AU & AV, 441-AX)

## F. Plaintiffs' Decision to Build a New Entertainment Center in Las Vegas.

- Vegas as properties such as the Venetian, Bellagio and Mandalay Bay opened. (Tr. 149). All these new properties were targeting the same customers that Caesars Palace had developed over its many years. (Tr. 149-150). In order to maintain the prestigious reputation of CAESARS in Las Vegas and solidify the perception of PPE as the premiere gaming company in the world, PPE (which by then owned CWI) decided to build a new entertainment complex at CAESARS PALACE. (Tr. 150).
- 31. PPE and CWI were already in discussions at this time with Celine Dion, the well-known Canadian singer, concerning the creation of a new production in which she would star. (Tr. 151). Ms. Dion and her husband/manager (Rene Angelil) had already begun discussions with Sceno Plus, a Canadian firm specializing in designing and building unique venues. (Tr. 386).
- 32. PPE and CWI, together with Ms. Dion and Mr. Angelil, described the requirement of this space for the type of show that was contemplated as well as the site within the Caesars Palace property where this venue would be constructed. (Tr. 386-387).
- 33. Sceno Plus took this information and using its own creative talents developed a place for a building that would fit within the existing Roman-Grecian theme permeating Caesars Palace. (Tr. 385-396, Ex. 475, 476, 477).
- 34. It was Sceno Plus that developed the idea of constructing a building resembling the ancient Roman Coliseum and suggested naming it COLISEUM, and then presented the idea to PPE. Sceno Plus's concept has a large circular shape with columns and arches mimicking the inside of the ancient Roman Coliseum. The stage has been built to have lifts from under the stage

to bring up sets and performers the same way that there were lifts in the ancient Roman Coliseum to bring animals and gladiators to the center stage. However, the audience will not totally encircle the stage as it did at the ancient Roman Coliseum. (Tr. 391-396, Ex. 476, 477).

- 35. PPE and CWI approved the selection of the name (with a modified spelling to dovetail the spelling used for THE COLOSSEUM convention complex at Caesars Palace) because the name was consistent with the well-known Roman-Grecian theme associated with CWI. (Tr. 398-399).
- 36. Plaintiffs closed the original COLOSSEUM convention center in August of 2000. (Tr. 177). On April 10, 2001, PPE publicly announced plans to build a new 4,000 seat theater connected to, and incorporated within, CAESARS PALACE, also to be called THE COLOSSEUM AT CAESARS PALACE, but which will from time to time be referred to only as COLOSSEUM. (hereinafter, "THE COLOSSEUM") (Tr. 150-151, Ex. 37).
- 37. THE COLOSSEUM is located at the apex of Las Vegas and Flamingo Boulevards, where it can be seen from virtually anywhere on the Las Vegas Strip, and is positioned prominently in front of CAESARS PALACE. The decision to build such a prominent building is part of PPE's strategic competitive response to the "New Las Vegas." (Tr. 387-391). THE COLOSSEUM mark was also prominently featured on the actual construction site at Caesars Palace. For instance, one of the signs stated "Battles Raged There. Chariots Roared There. Beasts Ravaged There. (And Now Celine Will Play There.) COLOSSEUM. The World's First Stage. Coming Soon To The Empire." (Tr. 240, Ex. 28).
- 38. Construction began shortly after the April 2001 announcement. PPE expects the facility will cost approximately \$95 million to construct. (Tr. 239). On May 22, 2002, PPE gave

details of the premiere engagement at THE COLOSSEUM, announcing that Celine Dion will be appearing 200 nights a year in a Franco Dragone production for the next three years. The announcement stated that THE COLOSSEUM would open in March 2003. (Tr. 152, Ex. 68).

- 39. As part of the May 22, 2002 announcement, Celine Dion appeared at THE COLOSSEUM with the construction crew, an event that attracted significant nationwide media coverage in both print and televised media. (Tr. 153).
- 40. THE COLOSSEUM mark will not only be used to designate the entertainment services offered by Plaintiffs as the new performance home for Celine Dion, it will also be used to designate numerous other services, including T.V. specials, boxing events, concerts, conventions, and parties for special occasions like the Super Bowl. (Tr. 184). In addition to the goods noted above, after the May 22<sup>nd</sup> announcement CWI commenced use of THE COLOSSEUM at Caesars Palace mark on t-shirts and anticipates expanding the goods to be branded with this mark. (Ex. 34).
- 41. PPE and CWI have already spent \$2 million in marketing and promoting THE COLOSSEUM AT CAESARS PALACE and the services to be offered in connection therewith. (Tr. 159). These promotion efforts include pop-up advertisements on the Caesars web site and advertisements in the print media. (Tr. 155, Ex. 27). In her testimony, Ms. Munch reliably estimated that over 1,000,000 visitors have accessed the Caesars web site since it began THE COLOSSEUM promotions. (Tr. 155-156). In all, PPE has spent or committed to spend \$4 million in promoting the new COLOSSEUM. (Tr. 156).
- 42. If PPE and CWI are prevented from using THE COLOSSEUM mark, they would suffer financially and through loss of goodwill. Ms. Munch testified that the cost to PPE and CWI

in having to redo the signs, the tickets, and all of CWI's promotional material would be very significant. (Tr. 159) In addition, PPE and CWI could not recapture the favorable media exposure already obtained if they could not use this mark. (Tr. 159-160; 335-36).

43. If they cannot use THE COLOSSEUM mark, Plaintiffs also stand to lose considerable goodwill with: (a) customers and others in the public who associate THE COLOSSEUM mark with CWI in general, and Caesars Palace in particular including the services to be offered at the new entertainment complex; and (b) their business partners involved in the March 2003 opening at THE COLOSSEUM and who have promoted the entertainment services to be offered at this new facility under THE COLOSSEUM mark. (Tr. 160; 335-36)

## G. Cyrus Milanian's Business and His Claim of Trademark Rights.

44. As explained below, Milanian was barred from testifying for refusing to appear at his deposition. Therefore there is little evidence about his background. A self-described "Internettor," the only business connected to him operates under his personal name and purports to offer telephone and ISP services. (Tr. 291-292, Ex. 7). Milanian owns at least one domain name, jimcrow.com, that has been offered for sale. (Tr. 293-295, Ex. 1, 4). There is no evidence that Milanian has any meaningful experience in the casino or resort hotel business. Indeed, according to a Dun & Bradstreet report, on May 26, 2002, Milanian told an interviewer that he operated a telephone communications company under his personal name. (Ex. 7) Thus, it appears that as of May 26, 2002, only days before he contacted Plaintiffs for the first time, that Milanian did not describe himself as a consultant for the hotel or casino industry. (Ex. 7). He does have considerable experience in filing trademark applications, having filed approximately 156 of them since 1998. (Tr. 295-296, Ex. 153).

- 45. Based on the testimony offered by Plaintiffs, the Court finds that Milanian's business model is to apply for a series of trademarks for a particular theme that he anticipates (or expects) will be a theme for a casino or resort hotel. The vast majority of these applications have been filed on an intent-to-use basis. (Tr. 296).
- 46. For example, Milanian applied for numerous trademarks relating to a Titanic themed casino and a casino themed after the city of San Francisco. (Ex. 153). Significantly, Milanian did not claim an intent to use these marks in connection with casino or hotel services, but rather in connection with "Business Management of Resorts Hotels [sic], Casinos and Theme Parks for Others and Products Merchandising [sic] Services." (E.g., Ex. 170).
- 47. The Court finds that this description of services was an intentional misrepresentation and that, in fact, these trademarks were filed for the purpose of assigning them to casinos and hotels for those businesses to use in connection with their services. For instance, on one website, a printout of which was submitted by Milanian in connection with his Statement of Use<sup>1</sup> to substantiate his use of the mark "The New Las Vegas" for "Business management of resort hotels, casinos and theme parks for others in International Class 25; Product merchandising in International Class 35; and Real estate development, in International Class 37," he stated quite clearly that:

Cyrus Milanian offers for sale and or rent/lease in the United States of America and/or Global marketplace, and/or internet; *license rights and/or buyout rights* for goods and services advertising for sale or rent/lease in exchange for royalties/compensationary for the following trademarks, servicemarks." (Ex. 163, emphasis added).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A Statement of Use is filed in an intent-to-use application to demonstrate that the Mark is actually in use. A certificate of registration will only issue for an intent to use application after a Statement of Use is filed and accepted.

48. The examiner found that this specimen was unacceptable because it did "...not. show use of the service mark in relation to the identified service." Subsequently, Milanian amended the language. Six months later, the same web-site, submitted as a specimen for a different mark, stated:

Cyrus Milanian offers for a fee his services, namely, business management of resort hotels, casinos and theme parks for others and merchandising services for others internationally, and/or in the United States of America, under one or more of the following trademark/service marks mentioned under its own title. (Ex. 159).

- 49. The Court finds this change in the wording of his website an example of Milanian's bad faith intent in attempting to register marks, for which he has neither trademark usage nor a bona fide intent to use.
- 50. There is other evidence that Milanian's claim of intended use of consulting services was a sham. Milanian owns patents relating to the creation of a Titanic-themed resort and casino. For instance, patent number 6,073,403 includes the following statement:

"A fully integrated building complex comprising a body of water, a first housing structured to resemble the Titanic and a generally domed-shaped second housing structured to resemble an iceberg. The first and second housings are each situated within the body of water, resting on the bottom thereof, and a second portion is disposed above the body of water. The interior of the first and second housing are divided into a plurality of levels and may include an entranceway/lobby, guest quarters, restaurant and entertainment facilities, a casino and other hotel amenities, such as health clubs, swimming pools, beauty salons, retail shops, etc. Access between the first housing and the shore is provided by a generally tubular-shaped enclosed gangway having at least one conveyor belt-like people mover. Access between the second housing and the shore is provided by a generally tubular-shaped enclosure having one or more motorized or tram-like vehicles operating therein. Access between the first and second housings is provided by a generally tubular-shaped tunnel having one or more motorized or tram-like vehicles operating therein." (Defs. Ex. O, emphases added).

- that Milanian had developed a concept for what he believed to be an innovative business method. It strains credibility to believe that Milanian was intending to offer consulting services under numerous Titanic-themed trademarks at the same time that he had invested in the registration of three patents relating to the operation of a Titanic-themed resort. The statements on his website clearly evidence that these Titanic trademarks were intended to be part of the "package" sold or licensed to an interested company with the ability to implement the patent claims under the related trademarks. Indeed, Milanian's counsel implicitly conceded this connection when he asked Plaintiff's Vice President of Corporate Law, Mark Clayton, "... it [isn't] reasonable to you that someone who had invented and obtained patents on a complex that could take the form of a replica of the Titanic would want to apply for trademarks to try to protect that concept further?" (Tr. 366).
- 52. Milanian's pattern of bad faith is further evident by the fact that, with respect to Titanic-themed marks, Milanian filed his first application six weeks after being told by Cunard that it was not interested in licensing its trademarks. See Cunard Line Limited v. Cyrus Milanian, Opp. No. 116,277 (T.T.A.B. July 28, 1998). (Ex. 5). To quote the T.T.A.B.:

A final comment is in order. It has not gone without notice that applicant filed the involved application some six weeks after receipt of the letter advising him that opposer was not inclined to license or lease any of its trademarks. Opposer contends that is was not even aware from the business plan and the parties' discussions that applicant desired to use and register this mark. Of course, applicant contends otherwise. However, if, as applicant maintains, opposer knew that applicant desired to use an register the flag design mark, the June 1, 1998 letter from opposer should have at least raised a question in applicant's mind as to whether the flag design mark was one of the trademarks opposer was not inclined to license or lease. Stated differently, there should have been a question in applicant's mind as to whether opposer was claiming rights in the flag design mark. (Ex. 5).

- 53. As indicated above, Milanian's applications are filed on an intent-to-use basis, which requires a good faith bona fide intent to use the marks in connection with the sale of goods or services. The Court finds that Milanian deliberately misstated the claimed services as consulting because he knew there was no way he would ever be able to show proof of use in connection with an actual hotel or casino. On the other hand, it appears that Milanian believed he could prove use of the marks in consulting services by creating a website offering these services and displaying the marks on the website.
- 54. When the trademark office refused to accept the website quoted above as evidence of use for consulting services, (see Ex. 163), Milanian modified the website. There were subsequent revisions, presumably to address other issues raised by the various Examining Attorneys at the U.S Patent and Trademark Office. For instance, the website resortscenter.com now reads:

Cyrus Milanian offers for a fee his services, namely, business management of resort hotels, casinos and theme parks for others and merchandising services for others internationally, and/or in the United States of America, under one or more of the following trademark/service marks mentioned under its own title. Cyrus Milanian also offers a fee to consult on business management of resort hotels, casinos, and theme parks and product merchandising services for others under one or more of the following trademarks mentioned under its own title. (Ex. 485)

- 55. The web site then lists over a hundred trademarks, including the ones for which he is attempting to show use. (Ex. 485).
- 56. Milanian's business model has not been successful. There is no evidence that he has generated any sales of his business management services offered through his web sites.

  Indeed, Milanian's approach --- filing for many related trademarks for a theme for a prospective casino or resort hotel and then offering "business management services" under those trademarks -- is inconsistent with the approach used by experienced developers or consultants who provide

merchandise such as souvenirs and related goods including slot machines.

- On August 21, 2001, Milanian filed another intent to use application with the USPTO (Serial No. 76/302,255) for ROME LAS VEGAS COLOSSEUM, for "resort hotels, casinos, and theme park business management, development, and product merchandising services." (Ex. 157). Notwithstanding these filings, Milanian took no steps to contact Plaintiffs. The Court concludes that this failure to contact Plaintiffs was not accidental, but was intentional. Milanian's pattern of conduct and obvious interest in assigning his rights to Plaintiffs support the conclusion that Milanian believed that the longer he waited to contact Plaintiffs, the more time and money Plaintiffs would expend in the mark thereby raising the value to any claim made by Milanian.
- 62. On April 18, 2001, Milanian filed an intent to use application for THE EMPIRE mark (Serial No. 78/059,056) for "business management of resort hotels, casinos and theme parks for others and products merchandising services." (Ex. 159). Thereafter, on October 21, 2001, Milanian filed an intent to use application for THE ROMAN EMPIRE mark (Serial No. 78/090,495) for "business management and development or casinos, hotel resorts, restaurants, shopping malls, convention centers, theme parks, real estate, and product merchandising." (Ex. 156).
- 63. As noted above, Plaintiffs own the EMPIRE Family of Marks. Milanian's applications for the Empire marks, for which Plaintiffs had not obtained federal registrations but strong common law rights, appears to have been part of an effort to increase the value of any settlement to Milanian. Indeed, while subsequently withdrawn, on October 27, 2001, Milanian filed an intent to use application (Serial No. 78/090,499) for JULIUS CAESAR for "business"

management and development of casinos, hotel resorts, restaurants, shopping malls, convention centers, theme parks, and products merchandising services." Outside trademark counsel for Park Place Entertainment wrote a cease and desist letter to Milanian on May 3, 2002. (Tr. 316-317, Ex. 469). Milanian later abandoned the application. (Tr. 317). Nevertheless, the timing of this application together with the other EMPIRE and COLOSSEUM applications supports the Court's finding that Milanian was purposefully seeking to obtain as much leverage as possible in the negotiations he would shortly commence. The Court also finds that this pattern of conduct further demonstrates Milanian's pattern of registering marks for which he has no legitimate use, but for the sole purpose of interfering with the rights of others.<sup>2</sup>

- 64. It was not until after PPE's May 22, 2002 announcement that Celine Dion would be appearing for a long-running opening engagement at THE COLOSSEUM opening in March of 2003 that Milanian contacted Plaintiffs regarding his alleged rights in The COLOSSEUM mark. On or about June 1, 2002, Milanian telephoned PPE's corporate headquarters in Las Vegas, Nevada and demanded to speak with its CEO, CFO or other senior management personnel alleging that PPE was violating his trademark rights in the term COLOSSEUM. (Tr. 289-291).
- During the next ten days, Milanian filed two new intent to use applications for THE COLOSSEUM, namely Serial No. 78/134,219 for business development services (Ex. 158) and Serial No. 78/132,978 for slot machines (Ex. 155), even though he neither had a gaming license nor filed an application for a gaming license, which is required in order to manufacture or distribute slot machines. Defendants have admitted that they lacked a bona fide intent to use THE

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Around this same time, Milanian also registered a variety of domain names, including three which contained the mark COLOSSEUM. (Tr. 293)

COLOSSEUM mark for slot machines because they did not have and had not applied for a gaming license. (See Answer at ¶ 14).

- 66. On or about June 11, 2002, representatives of PPE and CWI held a telephone conference with Milanian and his first attorney, Nicholas Karamanos of Pennsylvania. During this June 11, 2002 conference call, Plaintiffs were informed by Milanian's counsel that he had filed a Statement of Use for THE COLOSSEUM (Serial No. 78/059,830) on June 6, 2002, and that the evidence of use was a copy of the "resortscenter.com" web site which, as discussed above, listed COLOSSEUM as one of the trademarks under which Milanian purports to offer business management services.<sup>3</sup> (Tr. 316, Ex. 154). Plaintiffs understood that Milanian and his counsel highlighted the fact that a Statement of Use had just been filed because an action for trademark infringement cannot be commenced until a mark has been used in commerce. (Tr. 418-421).
- 67. Plaintiffs advised Milanian of CWI's well-established common law trademark rights in THE COLOSSEUM dating back to 1966, and demanded that Milanian abandon any claims to THE COLOSSEUM, including his applications for THE COLOSSEUM, as well as any corresponding domain names. (Tr. 317). Plaintiffs made several further attempts to convince Milanian to abandon his claim in THE COLOSSEUM mark. He did not respond to those overtures, and has refused to accede to Plaintiffs' requests. (Tr, 322-323, Ex. 11).
- 68. Meanwhile, on June 5, 2002, CWI filed an intent to use application with the PTO for COLOSSEUM (Serial No. 76/417,751, Class 41) for "education and entertainment services, namely operating a sports, entertainment, concert, convention and exhibition arena and the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Milanian claimed that his initial use of COLOSSEUM was in May 2000. However, his web sites do not list COLOSSEUM until August 2001.

production or co-production of sports and entertainment events, concerts, conventions and exhibitions for public exhibition, viewing and for radio, television and cable broadcasts." (Tr. 273; Ex. 14). This application was filed on an intent to use basis because PPE wanted to make its claims a matter of public record but needed to review its archives for specimens illustrating its use of COLOSSEUM since the COLOSSEUM convention center, as noted above, had already closed. (Tr. 274). CWI subsequently filed an Amendment to Alleged Use claiming August 6, 1966 as the date of first use. (Tr. 274).

- 69. The USPTO issued an office action refusing registration of this mark because it found THE COLOSSEUM mark to be merely descriptive of the services. It also questioned whether the specimens submitted were sufficient. CWI explained that the one specimen submitted to the USPTO did not include all of the exhibits made available at this trial. CWI has until May 29, 2003 to respond to the USPTO and has not yet responded. (Tr. 273-275, Ex. 14). The Court notes that the USPTO did not find CWI's mark to be generic. (Ex. 14)
- 70. On September 24, 2002, Plaintiffs' outside counsel received a demand on behalf of defendants from the law firm of Brinks, Hoffer, Gilson and Lione indicating that Milanian continued to believe he had potential claims against PPE and CWI. (Ex. 11). While the letter was written on behalf of New Las Vegas Development, LLC, Brinks Hoffer indicated to Plaintiffs' outside counsel that Milanian was connected to this entity. (See Tr. 324).
- 71. Plaintiffs concluded as a result of this letter that in order to protect their \$95

  Million dollar investment in THE COLOSSEUM that they needed to be proactive. (Tr. 354). On

  October 2, 2002, Plaintiffs filed this declaratory judgment action, alleging that Defendants<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In addition to Milanian, Plaintiffs sued NLVD, on whose behalf plaintiffs received the September 24, 2002 letter referenced above from a law firm that was apparently engaged by both Milanian and NLVD.

violated the Lanham Act and committed unfair competition under Nevada law with respect to COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE trademarks. Plaintiffs sought a declaration of their superior rights in those marks, an order enjoining defendants from using the marks, and for a consolidation of the trial on the merits under Rule 65.

- The answer on November 26, 2002 through the law firm of Hunterton & Associates. The answer denied the salient allegations in the complaint except it admitted that Milanian lacked a bona fide intent to use THE COLOSSEUM on gaming machines, namely slot machines and gambling devices because he does not have and has not taken steps to obtain a gaming license. (See Answer at ¶ 14). While the Answer did not include any counterclaims, it did assert two affirmative defenses of particular relevance: affirmative defense No. 5 that Plaintiffs are estopped from asserting claims to the trademarks, and affirmative defense No. 6 that defendants possess common law and/or contractual rights to the trademarks. No facts were pled to support these defenses.
- 73. During a conference held by the Court on December 19, 2002, Hunterton & Associate's Motion to Withdraw as Counsel was granted. Pursuant to the Order entered that same day, the Court ordered a consolidated trial on the merits to commence on January 21, 2003.

## I. <u>Defendants Submit The 1996 Documents.</u>

74. On January 9, 2003, the last day by which Defendants were to file a trial brief, Gregory F. Buhyoff, Esq., on behalf of both Defendants, filed a Motion for Summary Judgment, arguing that Plaintiffs were using the mark COLOSSEUM as a generic term and thus had no

After trial, Plaintiffs and NLVD filed a Stipulation of Dismissal based on certain representations made by NLVD's principal, Nicholas Karamanos.

standing to assert the claims in their Complaint.

- 75. This motion also included as exhibits certain documents purporting to show that in May 1996, Milanian submitted a proposal to ITT, the then-owner of CWI, concerning the development at Caesars Palace of a replica of the ancient Roman Coliseum and other ancient landmarks. This proposal specifically states, "[t]he following are trade secrets and intellectual properties of Mr. Cyrus Milanian." (Def. Trial Brf, Ex. H).
- CWI apparently lost this proposal, and had agreed to maintain the confidentiality of any mental impressions revealed in Milanian's proposal. (Def. Trial Brf., Exs. I, J). Milanian emphasized his intellectual property rights multiple times, both in the letter he sent to Rand Araskog, then Chairman of CWI and ITT, where he asks to, "Please regard them all as the Trade Secrets," then at the end of his Marlania proposal where he writes "\*TM/SM Marks: properties of Cyrus Milanian. Copyright © 1990-1996 Cyrus Milanian, all rights reserve under US and/or international laws, no part of this proposal may be copies or reproduced, duplicated, in any manner, shape or form without the prior written agreement, from Mr. Cyrus Milanian. Violaters are subject to civil and criminal prosecutions." (Def. Trial Brf., Ex. H)
- 77. ITT subsequently sold CWI to Starwood in approximately 1998. (Tr. 50). As noted above, CWI was then acquired by PPE on December 31, 1999.
- 78. Witnesses employed by PPE and CWI stated that they had no knowledge of any of these documents and had never heard of any proposal from Mr. Milanian until they saw these documents. (Tr. 157, 241). The testimony also established that each CWI person involved with these documents was no longer working with CWI when Plaintiffs began discussions with Patrick

 services in connection with a new resort hotel or casino.

- 57. Donald Chandler, PPE's Vice President of Architecture and Design, testified that he worked with several consulting companies with respect to PPE's casino business. Indeed, prior to being employed by PPE, Mr. Chandler has experience offering consulting services (Tr. 231). Mr. Chandler testified that he was not aware of any company that offered pre-registered trademarks as part of its services. (Tr. 241-245).
- 58. No evidence refutes this testimony. Thus, this Court finds on the credible testimony and evidence presented at trial that the accepted and standard industry practice is to provide consulting or management under the firm's own name, not under one or many trademarks that would be used by the consultant's clients in its business.

## H. Milanian's Claim of Trademark Rights in COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE

- 59. On April 23, 2001, less than two weeks after PPE announced the imminent commencement of construction of a new 4,000 seat showroom to be called THE COLOSSEUM, Milanian filed an intent to use application with the USPTO (Serial No. 78/059,830) for THE COLOSSEUM, for "business management of resort hotel, casinos, and theme parks for others and product merchandising services." (Ex. 154).
- 60. Based on Milanian's efforts, however unsuccessful, to market his services to hotels and casinos such as those operated by PPE and CWI, as well as the timing of this filing, the Court finds that at the time Milanian filed this application he had knowledge of Plaintiffs' use of its COLOSSEUM marks and their intent to use COLOSSEUM in connection with the services to be offered at the new entertainment complex. The Court also finds that Milanian knew that the use of THE COLOSSEUM mark for these services would also inevitably lead to the use of the mark on

Bergé with respect to the showroom for Celine Dion. (Tr. 158).

- 79. In addition, PPE had reviewed CWI's building proposals in 2000 (after PPE bought CWI) and found nothing in those files about a building a replica of the ancient Roman Coliseum. (Tr. 232). PPE's in-house counsel, Mark Clayton, testified that he had reviewed the current legal files and found no copies of any of these documents. (Tr. 314). Of course, this would be consistent with the fact that they had been lost some seven years ago.
- 80. At trial, Plaintiffs called Patrick Bergé of Sceno Plus who testified that as early as 1991 five years before CWI was contacted by Milanian -- he had been retained by CWI to design a facility to house what became known as Cirque de Soleil's "O". The facility that Bergé designed was also to be a replica of the ancient Roman Coliseum and that he suggested calling the building Coliseum. The project, however, did not proceed. (Tr. 381).
- 81. Bergé further testified that he was retained by CWI again in 2000 to develop a new venue in which Plaintiffs would host a show featuring Celine Dion. Bergé's testimony, which was unrebutted by Defendants and which the Court credits, establishes that he developed the concept of designing this showcase for Celine Dion as a replica of the Roman Coliseum and the idea of calling it "Coliseum."<sup>5</sup>. This testimony was supported by the plans and submissions Bergé and his company made to PPE and CWI. (Tr. 389-391, Ex. 475, 476, 477).

## J. Milanian's Failure To Appear For Deposition And The Aborted Settlement.

82. On December 31, 2002, Plaintiffs noticed the deposition of Mr. Milanian for Monday, January 13, 2003. Mr. Milanian failed to appear at this deposition and did not notify

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> As noted above, the spelling was changed by Plaintiffs to dovetail the earlier version of The COLOSSEUM Convention Center.

Plaintiffs that he would not be appearing until that day.

- 83. On January 14, 2003, the Court held a court conference with respect to this missed deposition and was advised that the parties were discussing settlement. The parties were directed by noon on January 15, 2003 to either settle this matter or agree to a new mutually acceptable time for the Milanian deposition.
- 84. On January 15, 2003, the Court was advised that no settlement had been reached.

  Mr. Milanian's counsel provided the Court and Plaintiffs' counsel with a letter from a physician,

  Doctor Robert W. Brenner, stating that Mr. Milanian could not testify due to "generalized anxiety,

  panic attacks and depression."
- 85. The Court held that this physician's letter was not sufficient to justify Milanian's failure to attend his deposition. The letter did not indicate when Milanian's condition commenced or what treatment was being provided. The Court therefore directed that Milanian would be barred from testifying at trial and that it would consider favorably an application from Plaintiffs for its fees in connection with preparing for the deposition. The Court also indicated that the motion for summary judgment was untimely but accepted these papers in lieu of a trial brief.
- 86. On January 16, 2003 the parties believed that they had settled this matter, and were prepared to call the Court that morning to put the settlement on the record. However, on January 17, 2003, Milanian refused to settle this matter because of an alleged disagreement over whether the settlement would include a general release by him of all claims or just the trademark claims.
- 87. Apparently, Milanian believed that after settling his "trademark" claims, he should still be entitled to bring a claim or claims based on the events in 1996.

. . . .

- 88. On January 17, 2003, Plaintiffs moved orally to enforce the claimed settlement, which the Court denied. At that same time, Mr. Buhyoff moved to withdraw as counsel in favor of Melvin Silverman. Melvin Silverman advised the Court that "many days" would be required to prepare for trial and again represented, without any further medical substantiation, that Milanian was not able to attend the trial.
- 89. The Court refused Mr. Buhyoff's motion to withdraw on the eve of trial and also ruled that the trial would go forward as scheduled. Later that day, Mr. Silverman filed an appearance and papers to be admitted *pro hac vice*.
- 90. On January 20, 2003, Mr. Buhyoff advised Plaintiffs' counsel that Mr. Milanian was in Nevada and requested Plaintiffs' consent to allow him to testify. Plaintiffs refused.

### K. The Parties' Motions During The Trial.

- 91. On January 21, 2003, Defendants moved this Court to reconsider its order banning Mr. Milanian from testifying. The affidavit submitted in support of this motion by Mr. Milanian contradicted his previous statements. Indeed, a second doctor's letter was attached in further support of the January 14, 2003 letter. Inexplicably, this letter was dated January 13, predating the letter it sought to explain. This submission only reinforced this Court's conclusion that the decision to bar Mr. Milanian from testifying was correct.
- 92. Defendant also moved to stay this trial in order to allow the question of the parties trademark rights to be adjudicated by the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. Thus, Milanian continued to assert some rights in THE COLOSSEUM and to contest Plaintiffs' rights. The Court denied this motion.

. . . .

- 93. Plaintiffs moved to bar Defendants from presenting any witnesses in light of these new facts, a motion the Court also denied.
- 94. Plaintiffs also filed a motion to reconsider their request for the Court to enforce the purported settlement. That motion was also denied.
- 95. Finally, Plaintiffs moved this Court for a finding that any claims by Milanian with respect to the 1996 events be deemed barred as compulsory counterclaims that were not raised.

  The Court took that motion under submission and will address it below.
- 96. Defendants' witness list identified Peter Boynton, the former CEO of CWI, who wrote one of the letters attached to Mr. Buhyoff's affidavit in support of Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment and then submitted to the Court as a trial brief. On January 22, 2003, defendants advised that Mr. Boynton would not be able to appear in Las Vegas and requested that he testify by telephone. (Tr. 368). The Court indicated that it was not inclined to permit such a last-minute arrangement. (Tr. 370).
- 97. Plaintiffs advised the Court that they had learned that one of the lawyers assisting Defendants' counsel of record had been in direct contact with Mr. Boynton and had questioned him about the 1996 events. According to representations made by this attorney, Michael Santucci, Mr. Boynton represented that he knew nothing about Mr. Milanian or the proposal contained in the 1996 documents. (Tr. 373-374).
- 98. The Court found that this contact with Mr. Boynton was a violation of the Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct which prohibit *ex parte* contact with employees or former employees. See Palmer v. Pioneer and Associates, Ltd., 59 P. 3d 1237 (2000); (Tr. 371). The Court ruled

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that, as a result, Mr. Boynton was barred from testifying.<sup>6</sup>

99. At the conclusion of trial on January 23, 2003, the Court issued certain preliminary rulings including finding that Milanian had acted in bad faith in asserting rights to COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE. The Court also required additional briefs on the issues of whether the 1996 claims were compulsory and, if not, whether there was sufficient evidence in this case to rule on the new claim in Plaintiffs amended complaint for declaratory judgment as to the 1996 counterclaims. The Court also requested a submission from the parties on attorneys' fees and damages.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1121(a) and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338(a), 1367 and 2201.
- 2. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the defendants, and venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391.
- 3. The Court has authority under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65 to conduct a final trial on the merits consolidated with the Plaintiffs' request for preliminary relief.

## I. Count One: Declaratory Judgment on THE COLOSSEUM Trademark.

4. The Declaratory Judgment Act provides:

[i]n a case of actual controversy within its jurisdiction . . . any court of the United States, upon the filing of an appropriate pleading, may declare the rights and other legal relations of any interest party seeking such declaration, whether or not further relief is or could be sought. 28 U.S.C. § 2201 (1988).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Even if Mr. Boynton had not been barred from testifying as a result of the *ex parte* contact, he would still not have testified since he could only appear by telephone, and the Court ruled that it would not accept his testimony in this fashion. Furthermore there was no prejudice to Defendants by this ruling for another reason. Based on Mr. Santucci's representation that Mr. Boynton has no recollection of any events, his testimony could have had no impact on any issue before this Court but could have merely allowed defendants to authenticate the 1996 documents in Mr. Buhyoff's affidavit. Plaintiffs stipulated to their admission, thus removing any possible prejudice.

5. In order to obtain declaratory relief, a plaintiff must establish that there is an actual controversy present that is ripe for adjudication. *Chiron Corp. v. Advanced Chemtech, Inc.*, 869 F. Supp. 800, 801 (N.D. Cal. 1994) (citing *Shell Oil Co. v. Amoco Corp.*, 970 F.2d 385, 887 (Fed. Cir. 1992)). In making its determination, a court must consider "whether the facts alleged, under all the circumstances, show that there is a substantial controversy, between the parties having adverse legal interests, of sufficient immediacy and reality to warrant the issuance of a declaratory judgment." *Central Montana Elec. Power Co-op., Inc. v. Administrator of Bonneville Power Admin.*, 840 F.2d 1472, 1474 (9th Cir. 1988) (citation omitted). In an infringement context, a plaintiff can meet this burden by showing it has a reasonable apprehension of being sued. *Id.; see also Arrowhead Indus. Water, Inc. v. Ecolochem, Inc*, 846 F.2d 731, 736 (Fed. Cir. 1988); *Topp-Cola Co. v. Coca Cola Co.*, 314 F.2d 124 (2d Cir. 1963).

apprehension of being sued. The Court concludes that Milanian knew of Plaintiffs' press release with respect to the building of THE COLOSSEUM and filed his applications in order to capitalize on the Plaintiffs' failure to have a federal registration for that mark. The timing of his June 1, 2002 call to PPE's headquarters and his refusal to respond to Plaintiffs' request that Milanian abandon his claim of rights in THE COLOSSEUM leads the Court to conclude that Milanian intended to wait until the eve of The Colosseum's opening to file an action against Plaintiffs. Certainly, the September 24, 2002 letter from the law firm of Brinks Hoffer to Plaintiffs' outside counsel requesting support for PPE's claims of priority signifies that Milanian continued to believe that he had claims of infringement.

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In order to adjudicate this claim for relief, the Court will first consider whether 7. Milanian had any basis to claim a superior right to THE COLOSSEUM mark. The evidence indicates that Milanian relied primarily on the fact that he had filed three intent to use applications before Plaintiffs and that therefore he had priority.

- Milanian's reliance on his intent-to-use applications is completely misplaced. 8. Section 1(b) of the Lanham Act was amended by Trademark Law Revision Act of 1988 (the "TLRA"), effective November 16, 1989, to allow for the filing of a trademark application by an individual with "a bona fide intention, under the circumstances showing the good faith of such person" to use the mark on the goods or services listed. The U.S. Trademark Association's official commentary to the TLRA observed that although the Act contains no precise definition of bona fide intent to use, a requirement of "good faith" is a precondition to such registration. See U.S.T.A., "The Trademark Law Rev. Act of 1988," comment on § 1(b) at p. 43 (1989).
- There is little case law with respect to what constitutes bona fide intent to use a 9. mark in commerce. However, in order to prevent the intent to use amendments from being abused, the Lanham Act was also amended to clarify that "use in commerce" means "the bona fide use of the mark in the ordinary course of trade, and not made merely to reserve a right in a mark." 15 U.S.C. § 1127.
- Based on the legislative history behind the TLRA, the test of "bona fide" intent has 10. been interpreted to require "objective" evidence of circumstances showing "good faith." See Lane Ltd. v. Jackson Int'l Trading Co., 33 U.S.P.Q.2d 1351, 1355 (T.T.A.B. 1994) ("[A]pplicant's mere statement of subjective intention, without more, would be insufficient to establish applicant's bona fide intention to use the mark in commerce.") As one commentator noted, "[t]his intention must

be more than a 'wish list'". W. Bouchard, How to Get and Keep a Trademark, <u>Trademarks and the Arts</u> (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. 2000) <u>reprinted</u> in J. Ginsburg, <u>Trademark and Unfair Competition Law</u> 215 (3d Ed. 2001).

11. The legislative history to these amendments provide significant guidance to this Court in evaluating whether Milanian had a bona fide intent to use THE COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE marks in commerce at the time he filed those applications. *See generally*S.Jud.Comm.Rep. on S. 1883, S. Rep. No. 100-515, pp. 23, 24 (Sept. 15, 1988); reprinted in TLRA Leg. Hist., supra, 23, 24. Indeed, among the examples provided of evidence that would disprove a bona fide intent to use a mark, the Senate Report included the following two which are particularly relevant to the facts of this case:

numerous intent to use applications for a variety of desirable trademarks intended to be used on [a] single new product . . . [and] an excessive number of intent-to-use applications in relation to the number of products the applicant is likely to introduce under the applied-for marks during the pendency of the applications."

Id.

- Milanian points to the fact that he has obtained several business method patents relating to a Titanic-themed casino as evidence that he had a good faith intent to use these marks in commerce.
- of a bona fide intent to use a mark related to the patent in commerce, this case is not the usual case. As noted above in the Court's Findings of Fact, Milanian deliberately misrepresented the nature of the services he intended to offer in connection with his applications for consulting services. As is evident from the various websites Milanian has submitted to the USPTO to

substantiate his use of his marks, Milanian was trafficking in trademarks, i.e. reserving what he perceived to be desirable names with the intent to sell or license them to others. The patent filings in this case actually further support this conclusion, for they show that Milanian was, as his counsel admitted by virtue of his questioning of Plaintiff's in-house counsel, filing his intent to use trademark applications to further protect the business ideas embodied in those patents.

- trademarks to assign them to others is not the normal business model used by consultants in the hotel and gaming industries. Indeed, the Court finds the Dun & Bradstreet report as evidence that as of May 2002 Milanian made no mention of his casino, hotel and related consulting services. In light of the revisions made in the TLRA to the definition of the term "use in commerce," it is clear that Milanian's intended "use" was not in accordance with the ordinary course of trade but was nothing more than a pretext for his effort to reserve rights in a series of names.
- 15. The statement on Milanian's web site that he was offering "licensing rights and buyout rights in the trademark service mark for resort hotel services, casino services and/or product merchandising services" makes clear that there is no other explanation for why Milanian, who otherwise has no involvement with the hotel casino industry, has invested in over 150 trademarks.
- 16. The Court therefore finds that Milanian's intent to use applications for COLOS-SEUM and EMPIRE were not made with a bona fide intent to use and are void. They confer absolutely no priority on Milanian, or any person or entity claiming from, through or under him.
- 17. However, even assuming that Milanian's applications were not void *ab initio*, there are other reasons why the Court will order Judgment in Plaintiffs' favor on the first cause of

action.

18. Surprisingly, notwithstanding that Milanian contacted Plaintiffs and threatened legal action based on their adoption of THE COLOSSEUM mark, Milanian's position at trial was that Plaintiffs were using the mark in a generic fashion. If true, then there was obviously no basis for Milanian to object to such use.

- 19. However, as discussed below, the Court specifically finds that Plaintiffs' use of COLOSSEUM was not generic. The Court notes that CWI clearly commenced use of THE COLOSSEUM mark years before Milanian could possibly claim any use. Thus, even if Milanian's intent to use applications were not void, he could still not use whatever rights he might obtain to stop a senior user who predated his application filing date. *See Johnny Blastoff, Inc. v. L.A. Rams Football Co.*, 188 F.3d 427, 435 (7th Cir. 1999) (quoting 3 McCarthy, *Trademarks and Unfair Competition* § 19:2) (citation omitted) (hereinafter "McCarthy").
- 20. For all these reasons, the Court finds that Plaintiffs are entitled to judgment on their first cause of action.

# II. Plaintiffs' Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Causes of Action: Milanian's <u>Infringe</u> ment of their COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE Marks.

21. The Second and Third Causes of Action both claim trademark infringement by Milanian of Plaintiffs' COLOSSEUM trademark under the Lanham Act and Nevada common law, respectively. The Fourth and Fifth Causes of Action allege, respectively, Lanham Act and Nevada common law trademark infringement with respect to Plaintiffs' rights in its EMPIRE Family of Marks.

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- The elements necessary to make out a claim of Nevada common law trademark infringement are identical to the elements necessary under section 43(a) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. s 1125(a). General Motors Corp. v. Let's Make a Deal, 223 F.Supp.2d 1183, 1188 (D. Nev. 2002); A.L.M.N. v. Rosoff, 104 Nev. 274, 277, 751 P.2d 1519 (1988). The Court will thus analyze these claims together.
- 23. The Lanham Act protects both registered and common-law trademarks. Section 43(a)(1) of the Act provides:

Any person who, on or in connection with any goods or services, ... uses in commerce any word, term, name, symbol, or device, or any combination thereof, or any false designation of origin, false or misleading description of fact, or false or misleading representation of fact, which ---

- (A) is likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive as to the affiliation, connection, or association of such person with another person, or as to the origin, sponsorship, or approval of his or her goods, services, or commercial activities by another person, ... shall be liable in a civil action by any person who believes that he or she is or is likely to be damaged by such act. *Id.* at 15 U.S.C. § 1125 (a)(1).
- 24. This section protects against infringement of unregistered marks, trade dress, as well as registered marks. *Brookfield Communications, Inc. v. West Coast Entertainment Corp.*, 174 F.3d 1036, 1046 (9th Cir. 1999).
- 25. To make out a case of trademark infringement Plaintiffs must establish that the defendant is using a mark that is (i) confusingly similar (ii) to a valid and protectable mark of the plaintiff. See Brookfield, 174. F.3d at 1046.
- 26. As noted above, there is no question of priority in this case. Plaintiffs commenced use of their COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE marks well before Milanian. Indeed, even had Milanian been able to prove actual use of COLOSSEUM before CWI, he still would not have prevailed on

this element as to that mark. It is not disputed that Plaintiffs issued a press release announcing what was to become known as THE COLOSSEUM AT CAESARS PALACE shortly before Milanian filed his intent to use application.

27. Courts have consistently rejected claims by usurpers like Milanian who seek to use technical arguments to deprive the natural trademark owner of its rights. For instance, in a case that is factually analogous to the case at bar, the District Court of Maryland found that a plaintiff's use of a mark during the pre-construction and promotional stages of development of a sports stadium was sufficient to establish priority and confer trademark rights such that it could enjoin the defendant from infringing its mark. *See Maryland Stadium Authority v. Becker*, 806 F. Supp. 1236, 25 U.S.P.Q.2d 1469 (D. Md. 1992). The Ninth Circuit has specifically instructed that in evaluating priority over a service mark the district courts should look to the "totality of the circumstances," including "non-sales" activities such as press releases. *Chance v. Pac-Tel Teletrac, Inc.*, 242 F.3d 1151, 1159 (9th Cir. 2001). Applying the teaching of *Chance* to this case, the Court finds that Plaintiffs' use in the April 2001 press release was before Milanian filed his first intent to use application for COLOSSEUM and is sufficient to give Plaintiffs priority over that application.

## A. Plaintiffs' Use Of THE COLOSSEUM Mark Is Not Generic.

28. Milanian also attacks the validity of Plaintiffs' COLOSSEUM trademark and claims that as used by Plaintiffs COLOSSEUM is generic. Milanian specifically points to the American Heritage Dictionary definition for "coliseum" namely, "a large amphitheatre for public sports, events, entertainment, assemblies."

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29. Since COLOSSEUM is not a registered mark, the burden falls to Plaintiffs to prove that the mark is not generic. *Filipino Yellow Pages, Inc. v. Asian Journal Publications, Inc.*, 198 F.3d 1143, 1146 (9th Cir. 1999).

- 30. The legal standard for determining whether a mark is generic is known as the primary significance test. If the primary significance of a particular term is the product itself and not the producer, then the term is generic. *See id.* at 1147. However, it is well established that the analysis is not quite that simple. For instance in *Filipino*, the Ninth Circuit acknowledged that the borderline between generic marks and the weakest of descriptive marks is "almost imperceptible." *See Id.* at 1151 n.5.
- 31. Furthermore, "a mark is not generic merely because it has some significance to the public as an indication of the nature or class of an article. In order to become generic the principal significance of the word must be its indication of the nature or class of an article, rather than an indication of the its origin." *King-Seeley Thermos C. v. Aladdin Indus., Inc.*, 321 F.2d 577, 580 (2d Cir. 1963) *cited in Genesee Brewing Co., Inc. v. Stroh Brewing Co.*, 124 F.3d 137, 144 (2d Cir. 1997). Furthermore, occasional generic usage does not destroy a trademark. Indeed, often the use of a trademark as a generic noun illustrates the power of a trademark. As McCarthy notes, the consumer ordering "a hamburger and a Coke" is demonstrating brand loyalty, not genericness. 2 McCarthy §12.8 at 12-20.
- 32. The Court notes that a term may be generic for some goods and services and not generic for other terms. Soweco, Inc. v. Shell Oil Co, 617 F.2d 1178, 1183 (5th Cir. 1980) and Abercrombie & Fitch Co. v. Hunting World, Inc., 537 F.2d 4,9 n.6 (2d Cir. 1976).

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- 33. The evidence adduced at trial establishes that Plaintiffs used COLOSSEUM in accordance with standard trademark usage. Thus, COLOSSEUM was inevitably used by CWI in the same font and style as was used for other designations that clearly are perceived as trademarks. For example, Exhibit 124 is a brochure from the late 1960s promoting the convention services of Caesars Palace. The page titles feature many registered trademarks of CWI including CAESARS PALACE, CLEOPATRA'S BARGE, THE PIAZZA, I, CAESAR and THE COLOSSEUM; each in the identical font and type size. Thus, the Court finds that Plaintiffs treated COLOSSEUM no differently from its other valuable trademarks and not just as the name of a building or room.
- 34. Additionally, the Court notes that the USPTO has conducted a preliminary review of CWI's application to register COLOSSEUM as a trademark for "[e]duction and entertainment services, namely operating a sports, entertainment, concert, convention and exhibition arena and the production or co-production of sports, and entertainment events, concerts, conventions and exhibitions for public exhibition, viewing and for radio, television and cable broadcasts, in International Class 41." (Ex. 14). Significantly, the USPTO did not refuse registration on the basis that the mark was generic, but found the mark to be descriptive. (Tr. 275-277, Ex. 14).
- 35. Courts should give deference to the opinion of the Examining Attorney. See 5 McCarthy, § 32:95.
- 36. Furthermore, Plaintiffs note that THE COLOSSEUM AT CAESARS PALACE is not, strictly speaking, an amphitheatre. The American Heritage Dictionary defines this term as "an oval or round structure having tiers of seats rising gradually outward from an open space or arena at the *center*." (emphasis added). As Patrick Bergé noted, an amphitheatre is best understood to describe a stadium like format where the crowd surrounds the field or stage as opposed to

a typical theatre where the stage is in front of and not in the center of the audience. (Tr. 397-398). Testimony from an individual who is familiar with the marketplace usage of a designation or term in question provides helpful evidence regarding the issue of genericness. *See* 2 McCarthy, § 12:13(5).

- 37. The use of the term COLOSSEUM to describe THE COLOSSEUM Convention

  Center was clearly not descriptive as there was no elevated seating and the structure was square.

  The same is true of the COLOSSEUM Showcase at Caesars Indiana. While THE COLOSSEUM

  AT CAESARS PALACE is round and has elevated seating, the evidence shows that there are significant differences between this structure and a true 'coliseum.'
- 38. Notwithstanding the dictionary definition, based on the testimony, it is clear that the most common understanding of the term 'coliseum' today is to refer to a sports venue with seating all the way around a central field. (Tr. 235, 397-398). A 'coliseum' has a large audience capacity such as the Los Angeles Coliseum which seats 100,000 sports fans. (Tr. 235).
- 39. In contrast, THE COLOSSEUM AT CAESARS PALACE seats only 4,000. (Tr. 150-51). Furthermore, as specially designed by Bergé, the farthest seat from the stage, which is not in the center of the building but at the front, is 120 feet. The St. Louis Rams might still be playing at the Los Angeles Coliseum if this were typical of coliseum-like seating.
- 40. Of course, determining genericness requires the Court to examine the nature of the services offered in connection with the mark. *Soweco, Inc.*, 617 F.2d at 1183. Milamian does not contest this proposition and indeed argues that his intended use for The Colosseum for, *inter alia*, gaming and product merchandising is not generic. (Tr. 514-520). Having found that Plaintiffs have priority over Milanian, the Court concludes that Plaintiffs' use of THE COLOSSEUM mark

for those goods and services is not generic. The Court also finds that Plaintiffs' use of THE COLOSSEUM for food, non-sports related entertainment, banquet and meeting services is not generic, as there is no evidence that these services are associated with use of the word for a sports arena.

- Thus, Plaintiffs' use of THE COLOSSEUM to designate restaurant services at the Cove Haven Caesars Pocono Resort, entertainment services at Caesars Indiana, or a variety of non-sports related services at Caesars Palace are suggestive of the grandeur and excitement associated with the ancient Roman Coliseum or sports events that occur in modern coliseums.
- Even if COLOSSEUM as used by Plaintiffs is descriptive, the Court finds based on CWI's extensive use of the mark for over 35 years, the fact that more than 11 million individuals have utilized these services, and the large sums of money spent to promote this mark, that the mark has secondary meaning.
- 43. Descriptive marks with secondary meaning are protectable trademarks. See Self-Realization Fellowship Church v. Ananda Church of Self-Realization, 59 F.3d 902, 910 (9th Cir. 1995). Thus, whether the mark is suggestive or descriptive with secondary meaning, it is clear that Plaintiffs have satisfied the first prong of the infringement test with respect to THE COLOSSEUM mark.
- 44. Defendant does not contest the validity of Plaintiffs' EMPIRE Family of Marks.

  The Court finds that CWI has used its EMPIRE Family of Marks dating back to at least 1968 in connection with a wide array of services including hotel, restaurant, entertainment, and gaming.
- 45. Thus, Plaintiffs have satisfied the first prong of the infringement test for its EMPIRE Family of Marks.

### B. Milanian's Infringement Of Plaintiffs' Marks

- 46. Having determined that Plaintiffs own THE COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE marks and that the marks are valid, the next step is to determine whether the similarity of the marks is likely to confuse the public as to the source of the products or services. *See Sharky's Inc. v. Covalt*, 704 F.2d 426, 431 (9th Cir. 1983); *Riggs Marketing, Inc. v. Mitchell*, 993 F. Supp. 1301, 1309 (D. Nev. 1997).
- 47. In AMF Inc. v. Sleekcraft Boats, 599 F.2d 341 (9th Cir. 1979), the Ninth Circuit set forth the following factors, commonly referred to as "the Sleekcraft Factors," to determine whether there is a likelihood of confusion.
  - (1) similarity of the marks;
  - (2) proximity or relatedness of services;
  - (3) strength of the mark;
  - (4) evidence of actual confusion;
  - (5) marketing channels used;
  - (6) type of goods and degree of care likely to be exercised by the purchaser;
  - (7) defendant's intent in selecting the mark;
  - (8) likelihood of expansion of the product line.

Id. at 348.

48. Application of these factors is case-specific, however similarity of the marks and whether the two users compete in the same industry are always important. *Brookfield*, 174 F.3d at 1054.

## Factor 1: Similarity of the Marks

49. In determining the similarity of marks, a court must examine the marks in their entirety as they appear in the marketplace along with the relevant appearance, sound and meaning. See Dreamwerks Prod. Group, Inc. v. SKG Studio, 142 F.3d 1127, 1129 (9th Cir. 1998). Simply

put, "the 'combination of features as a whole rather than a difference in some of the details ... must determine whether the competing product is likely to cause confusion in the minds of the public." *Perfect Fit Industries, Inc. v. Acme Quilting Co.*, 618 F.2d 950, 954 (2d Cir. 1980) (citations omitted). Here, the respective COLOSSEUM marks are obviously identical or differ only by virtue of the word "the" or "Caesars Palace". In addition, Defendants' claim to ROME LAS VEGAS COLOSSEUM is also virtually identical to COLOSSEUM, given that CWI has used THE COLOSSEUM AT CAESARS PALACE in Las Vegas as part of its well-known Roman-Grecian theme.

- 50. Absolute identity between the marks, however, is not necessary for a finding of consumer confusion. See Washington Speakers Bureau Inc. v. Leading Authorities, Inc., 33 F.

  Supp. 2d 488, 497 (E.D. Va. 1999). Confusing similarity of marks may also be established under the "Family of Marks" doctrine. A trademark owner may use a number of marks with a common feature or "surname" that is distinctive enough to be recognized by the consuming public causing them to associate such derivative marks with the trademark owner. See Spraying Systems Co. v.

  Delavan, Inc., 975 F.2d 387, 395 (7th Cir. 1992) ("[A]pplication of the doctrine requires a showing that the family feature or 'surname' is distinctive enough to trigger recognition 'in an of itself'") (citation omitted). "A family of marks is a group of marks having a recognizable common characteristic, wherein the marks are comprised and used in such a way that the consuming public associates not only the individual marks, but the common characteristic of the family, with the trademark owner." J & J Snack Foods Corp. v. McDonald's Corp., 932 F.2d 1460, 1462 (Fed. Cir. 1991)
- 51. For example, MC and MAC are a well-known family of marks associated with the fast food chain McDonalds's Corp. See McDonald's Corp. v. McBagel's, Inc., 649 F. Supp. 1268,

1 U.S.P.Q.2d 1761 (S.D.N.Y. 1986) ("MC" family of mark was found to be infringed by the use of McBagel's on a bagel bakery and restaurant). A "Family of Marks" will be found upon a showing that the designation constituting the common feature or "surname" of the family is in fact recognized by the public as a trademark in and of itself. *Primedia Intertec Corp. v. Technology Marketing Corp.*, 35 F. Supp.2d 809, 817 (D. Kan. 1998).

- 52. Plaintiffs have established their rights to a family of EMPIRE marks including:
  EMPIRE, THE JEWEL OF THE EMPIRE, CAESARS MOUNTAIN EMPIRE, THE GLORY OF
  THE EMPIRE, ONWARD TO THE EMPIRE, THE ROMAN EMPIRE, GUIDE TO THE
  EMPIRE, ENCHANTMENT AT THE EMPIRE, ENJOY THE EMPIRE, BEHOLD THE
  EMPIRE, CAESARS MAGICAL EMPIRE, REBUILDING THE EMPIRE, EXPANDING THE
  EMPIRE, and others including, EMPERORS CLUB, and the EMPERORS EVERYDAY
  GIVEAWAY. Milanian's THE EMPIRE and THE ROMAN EMPIRE bear similarity to CWI's
  family of EMPIRE marks in that the ordinary consumer is likely to conclude that the goods and
  services offered under the marks originate from, or are performed by, Plaintiffs.
  - 53. Thus, this factor weighs strongly in Plaintiffs' favor for both marks.

#### Factor 2: Relatedness of the Services

54. The next step is to consider the relatedness of the services. The more related the services, the greater the danger that the public will incorrectly assume that there is a connection between the producers, despite the fact that no relationship exists. See Sleekcraft, 599 F.2d at 350 (citation omitted). "Complimentary products or services are particularly vulnerable to confusion." Sleekcraft, 599 F.2d at 350 (citing Communications Satellite Corp. v. Comcet, Inc., 429 F.2d 1245, 1253 (4th Cir. 1970)).

55. Milanian argues that his consulting services are not related to the services offered by Plaintiffs. The Court disagrees.

- 56. First, Milanian's claim, first made on June 1, 2002, that Plaintiffs were infringing his rights undercuts his argument that his services are unrelated to those offered by Plaintiffs.
- 57. Second, Milanian's application to register JULIUS CAESAR for consulting services relating to hotels and casinos was refused registration based on the prior registration for CAESARS by CWI for hotel and casino services. (Tr. 289). Thus, the Examining Attorney found sufficient relatedness to refuse registration even when the marks were not so close as here (Caesars vs. Julius Caesars in contrast to The Colosseum vs. Colosseum).
- 58. Third, as previously discussed, Milanian claimed consulting services for hotels and casinos as a first step in assigning these marks to a hotel or casino for their use on their services.

  Thus, he saw them as sufficiently related to allow him to assign the marks as part of his "project package."
- 59. Finally, as did the T.T.A.B. in the *Cunard* case, the Court notes that even if it is true that consultants market their services to different end-users than do hotels and casinos, a consultant's specialized audience is still part of the general public susceptible to source confusion. *Cunard, supra*, at 16.
  - 60. Under these circumstances, this factor leans in Plaintiffs' favor.

## Factor 3: Strength of the Mark

61. It is well settled that the strength of a mark refers to "the distinctiveness, or more precisely, its tendency to identify the goods sold under the mark as emanating from a particular, although possibly anonymous source." E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Co. v. Yoshida Intern., Inc.,

393 F. Supp. 502, 512 (E.D.N.Y. 1975). In determining the distinctiveness of a mark, courts consider two factors: "its inherent distinctiveness, and its distinctiveness in the marketplace." *Streetwise Maps, Inc. v. Vandam, Inc.*, 159 F.3d 739,743-44 (2d Cir. 1998). "Marks are often classified in one of five categories of increasing distinctiveness: (1) generic, (2) descriptive, (3) suggestive, (4) arbitrary, or (5) fanciful." *Kendall-Jackson Winery, Ltd. v. E. & J. Gallo Winery*, 150 F.3d 1042, 1047 (9th Cir. 1998). Marks that are inherently distinctive such as arbitrary, fanciful or suggestive marks do not require proof of secondary meaning in order to be protected. *See Two Pesos, Inc. Taco Cabana, Inc.*, 505 U.S. 763, 768 (1992). A descriptive mark, however, can become protectable "provided that it has acquired 'secondary meaning' in the minds of consumers, i.e., it has become distinctive of the trademark applicant's goods in commerce." *Filipino*, 198 F.3d at 1147.

- 62. Arbitrary and fanciful marks are strong marks, and are afforded greater protection. See Brookfield, 174 F.3d at 1058. Fanciful marks are "coined" terms that are invented or selected for the sole purpose of functioning as a trademark. Blisscraft of Hollywood v. United Plastics Co., 294 F.2d 694, 700 (2d Cir. 1961). Arbitrary marks are words commonly used in the English language, but when used with the goods or services in issue, neither suggest nor describe any ingredient, quality or characteristic of those goods or services. Tisch Hotels, Inc. v. Americana Inn, Inc., 350 F.2d 609, 611 (7th Cir. 1965).
- 63. A "suggestive" term suggests rather than describes an ingredient, quality, or characteristic of the goods and requires imagination, thought, and perception to determine the nature of the goods, while "descriptive" term specifically describes a characteristic or ingredient of an article or service. *Abercrombie & Fitch*, 537 F.2d at 10-11. For example, ACTION SLACKS

was found to be merely suggestive for pants. See Levi Strauss & Co. v. R. Josephs Sportswear, 28 U.S.P.Q.2d 1464 (T.T.A.B. 1993). Similarly, the mark CITIBANK for an urban bank was found to be suggestive, not requiring proof of a secondary meaning. See Citibank, N.A. v. Citibank Group, Inc., 724 F.2d 1540 (11th Cir. 1984).

- 64. The Court has already determined that Plaintiffs' COLOSSEUM mark is suggestive and that, even if only descriptive, there is sufficient evidence of secondary meaning to make it protectable.
- 65. CWI's EMPIRE Family of Marks is fanciful. The word EMPIRE used in connection with hotel, casino, gaming, and entertainment services bears no relationship to these services.

  Moreover, the court finds that the EMPIRE mark been used continuously for over 35 years on a variety of promotional materials in connection with CWI's services.
- 66. Based on the large number of consumers exposed to these marks and the continuous use of these marks in countless promotional pieces on a regular basis, the Court concludes that both marks are strong.
  - 67. This factor goes in Plaintiffs' column.

#### Factor 4: Actual Confusion

68. In the Ninth Circuit, evidence of actual confusion is not required to establish a violation of the Lanham Act. See Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences v. Creative House Promotions, Inc., 944 F.2d 1446, 1457 (9th Cir. 1991). In fact, such a showing where there has been insignificant commercial activity by the infringer would work to penalize the trademark owner for taking prompt steps to protect his/her rights. See Lois Sportswear, U.S.A., Inc. v. Levi Strauss & Co., 799 F.2d 867, 873 (2d Cir. 1986).

- 69. Milanian's only known use of THE COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE marks is the display of these marks on his web site. Although offered in conjunction with his consulting services, there is no evidence that he has been hired to provide such services to anyone in the casino industry. Consequently, the Court does not find it surprising that there is no evidence of actual confusion.
  - 70. This factor is therefore neutral.

#### Factor 5: Marketing Channels

- 71. Plaintiffs' use of a variety of methods to promote their COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE Family of Marks including the Internet. Over one million "unique" individuals have visited the Caesars web site since it began to promote the Celine Dion show at THE COLOSSEUM entertainment center, making prominent use of both THE COLOSSEUM mark and EMPIRE Family of Marks.
- 72. Milanian, as discussed above, promotes his claims to ownership of these registrations and pending applications on the Internet. Thus, the Court concludes that there is overlap in the channels of trade used by the parties. This factor also weighs in favor of Plaintiffs.

#### Factor 6: Wrongful Intent

- 73. A plaintiff need not prove wrongful intent to show trademark infringement.

  Brookfield, 174 F.3d at 1059. However, where it is shown that the alleged infringer knowingly adopted the infringing mark, courts will presume that it can achieve its purpose in deceiving the public. Sleekcraft, 599 F.2d at 354.
- 74. The Court has already concluded that Milanian had knowledge of Plaintiffs' announcement to build a new entertainment complex to be called THE COLOSSEUM when he

filed his first intent to use application for COLOSSEUM. The Court finds the filing of this application to have been done in bad faith in an attempt to cast a cloud over Plaintiffs' rights to use the mark for the new convention center. The Court also finds that Milanian was aware of the Plaintiffs' EMPIRE Family of Marks and that his filing for these marks were also done in order to obtain leverage over Plaintiffs for the purposes of extracting monies from them.

- 75. Additionally, as previously noted, the Court finds that Milanian did not have a bona fide intent to use the contested marks when he filed his intent to use applications.
- 76. This course of conduct directly supports a conclusion that Milanian's efforts to acquire rights in COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE was done in bad faith.

#### Factor 7: Product Expansion

- 77. Based on Milanian's obvious interest in successfully entering the world of gaming and hotels, it is self-evident that he hopes to expand his services from consulting to actual hotel and casino services. Thus, this factor, too, weighs in favor of Plaintiffs.
- 78. Based on a consideration of the *Sleekcraft* factors, the Court finds the identity (or near identity) of the trademarks, the relatedness of the businesses, the relative strength of Plaintiffs' mark, the overlap between the respective marketing channels used by the parties, Milanian's bad faith, and the likelihood of expansion that Milanian's use of THE COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE marks on the Internet are likely to cause confusion. The Court also finds that Milanian's own assertion in June of 2002 that there would be confusion further shows a likelihood of confusion.
- 79. The Court also notes that its conclusion that Milanian's use of the Plaintiffs' marks creates a likelihood of confusion in the market place is supported by the doctrine of initial interest

confusion. See Interstellar Starship Services, Ltd. v. Epix Inc., 184 F.3d 1107, 1110 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999). Initial interest confusion results when the defendant uses the plaintiff's trademark "in a manner calculated 'to capture initial consumer attention, even though no actual sale is finally completed as a result of the confusion." Brookfield, 174 F.3d at 1062 (quoting Dr. Seuss Enters. v. Penguin Books, 109 F.3d 1394, 1405 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997)).

- 80. No one could reasonably deny that a computer consulting firm calling itself "APPLE" would benefit from the initial positive reach of potential customers. Similarly, a consultant to the hotel and casino industry is going to gain an initial advantage by associating him with one of the strongest brands in the gaming industry.
- 81. Based on these findings, the Court grants judgment to Plaintiffs on Counts Two,
  Three, Four, and Five of their Amended Complaint.

#### III. The Compulsory Counterclaim Issue.

- As noted above, Plaintiffs requested the Court rule that Milanian waived any claims relating to developing the concept of The Colosseum as a result of his not bringing them as compulsory counterclaims. Specifically, Plaintiffs requested that potential claims relating to the 1996 documents be barred as compulsory counterclaims.
- 83. Under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, pleadings "shall state as a counterclaim any claim which at the time of serving the pleading the pleader has against any opposing party, if it arises out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the opposing party's claim and does not require for its adjudication the presence of third parties of whom the court cannot acquire jurisdiction." Fed. R. Civ. P. 13(a).

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- 84. The rule is liberally applied and "was designed to prevent multiplicity of actions and to achieve resolution in a single lawsuit of all disputes arising out of common matters." Southern Constr. Co. v. Pickard, 371 U.S. 57, 60 (1962). A subsequent action cannot be maintained where the claims asserted should have been brought as compulsory counterclaims in a previous action. See Springs v. First Nat'l Bank, 835 F.2d 1293, 1296 (9th Cir. 1988); see also 6 Wright, Miller & Kane § 1417, p. 129 (1990).
- 85. The Ninth Circuit utilizes the "logical relationship test" to determine whether two claims arise our of the same "transaction or occurrence." *See Pochiro v. Prudential Ins. Co. of America*, 827 F.2d 1246, 1249 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1987). Under the test, a counterclaim is compulsory of there is any "logical relationship" between the claim and the counterclaim. *Id.*
- 86. It is not necessary for the facts or the legal theories to be the same or even substantially the same in both actions. As long as the facts of the later asserted claim "are sufficiently related to subject matter of the original action, they must be barred as compulsory claims." *Fochiro*, F.2d at 1251. If a separate trial on each of the respective claims would involve a substantial duplication of time and effort by the parties and the court, a logical relationship will be found. *See Pickard*, 371 U.S. at 60; *see also USM Corp. v. SPS Technologies, Inc.*, 102 F.R.D. 167, 171 (N.D. Ill. 1984).
- 87. Here, the Court finds that any claim arising out of or related to the events of 1996 were compulsory counterclaims. The subject matter of the action was the ability of Plaintiffs to open The Colosseum without threats of legal action from Milanian. In addition, Milanian listed the 1996 document as trial exhibits and former CWI employees related to the 1996 documents as trial witnesses.

- 88. The Court also finds that a claim by Milanian in another case that he "owns" the idea to develop a replica of the Roman Coliseum or that PPE and CWI violated some duty to him in developing the concept would necessarily duplicate the testimony in this case from Deborah Munch, Donald Chandler, and Patrick Bergé on the development of The Colosseum. Defendants did not object to that testimony; indeed, they cross-examined those witnesses on those issues, and also presented evidence about the issues on their case in-chief.
- 89. Thus, there would be substantial factual overlap between this case and a suit by Milanian relating to The Colosseum.
- 90. The compulsory counterclaim rule requires only that the legal theories in the claims and the counterclaims be related. *See Alltrade, Inc. v. Uniweld Products, Inc.*, 946 F.2d 622, 625 (9th Cir. 1991). Here, the May 1996 document submitted by Milanian indicated that he was containing trademark rights in connection with his proposal to build a replica of the ancient Roman Coliseum. Moreover, the 1996 documents were obviously relevant to several other defenses such as unclean hands and related to the theory that Milanian's rights in "intellectual property" were infringed by Plaintiffs. Indeed, Milanian recognized the relevance of these facts to this case when he included in his answer to the complaint affirmative defenses based on estoppel and that he had contractual rights to the trademarks.
- 91. The close factual and legal connection between claims based on the 1996 events and the subject matter of this cases means that such claims should have been asserted as compulsory counterclaims. See, e.g., Alltrade, 946 F.2d at 625; Official Airline Guides, Inc. v. Churchfield Publications, Inc., 756 F. Supp. 1393, 1407 (D. Or. 1990).

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- 92. Milanian's failure to assert claims related to the 1996 events as compulsory counterclaims in this action means that he has waived them. See Pinkstaff, 974 F.3d at 115-116; Pochiro, 827 F.2d at 1251; Springs v. First National Bank of Cut Bank, 835 F.2d 1293, 1295 (9th Cir. 1988); see also 6 Wright, Miller & Kane §1417 at 129.
- 93. This Court has the discretion to enjoin a party from bringing its compulsory counterclaim in a subsequent federal [state or foreign] court action. See Seattle Totems Hockey Club, Inc. v. National Hockey League, 652 F.2d 852, 854-855 (9th Cir. 1981), cert. denied, 457 U.S. 1105 (1982). That will be the remedy ordered in this case.
- 94. Plaintiffs are scheduled to open The Colosseum and introduce Celine Dion in late March 2003. Given their substantial investment and Milanian's conduct in both creating the dispute and in conducting this litigation, an injunction is appropriate to preclude the possibility of Milanian filing another lawsuit around the time The Colosseum is scheduled to open.

## IV. Plaintiffs' Sixth Count For Declaratory Relief Against Milanian.

- 95. The Court's finding that Milanian, or any person or entity claiming from, through or under him, waived his right to assert counterclaims relating to the 1996 events means that it need not consider Plaintiffs' amendment of the Complaint to add a declaratory judgment count (Count Six). Nevertheless, the Court finds, for the reasons set forth below, that judgment should be awarded to Plaintiffs on such a claim.
- 96. There is a clear, concrete controversy between Plaintiffs and Milanian regarding Milanian's alleged contractual and common law rights in the concept of building a replica of the ancient Roman Coliseum. The nature of the 1996 documents and Milanian's refusal to provide a general release as the sole basis for the rejecting a settlement on the eve of trial establish the

existence of such a controversy. In addition, Milanian's counsel consented to an amendment during the first day of trial (Tr. 22), indicating that Milanian and his counsel were on notice of the amended claims. See S.E.C. v. Seaboard Corp., 677 F.2d 1301, 1314 (9th Cir. 1982) (basic inquiry under Rule 15 is whether opposing party is on notice of the amended claim).

- 97. Moreover, Milanian conducted the trial as though the 1996 events were part of it, and his failure to object to the evidence about the 1996 events also shows that he has consented to try those issues in this case. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(b); Casey v. Lewis, 43 F.3d 1261, 1268 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1994), rev'd on other grounds, 518 U.S. 343 (1996); see generally 3 Moore's Federal Practice at §15.18[1].
- 98. Plaintiffs seek a declaration that they breached no duty, in contract or tort, to Milanian in connection with developing the concept of The Colosseum. As a declaratory judgment defendant, Milanian bears the burden of proof to show that a contractual or common law duty was owed to him by Plaintiffs, and that they breached such a duty. See Vivid Techs. Inc. v. Am. Science & Eng'g, Inc., 200 F.3d 795, 802 (Fed. Cir. 1999) (citing 12 Moore's Federal Practice §57.62[2][d] (3<sup>rd</sup> ed. 1997)).
- 99. To establish a valid contract under Nevada law, Milanian would have to show an offer, acceptance, and bargained-for consideration. *See D'Angelo v. Gardner*, 107 Nev. 704, 744, 819 P.2d 206, 233 (1991). Milanian has failed to establish that a valid contract existed between him and CWI. Despite providing copies of the 1996 documents, Milanian did not move the documents into evidence.
- 100. Even considering the August 1996 David Mitchell Certification as establishing a contractual relationship, in which CWI agreed not to use such information without Milanian's

consent, the Court finds that there was no evidence that either plaintiff breached the contract.

- 101. Milanian failed to elicit any evidence that demonstrates that CWI used any of the information in his proposal in the conception, design, and building The Colosseum. Indeed, the undisputed evidence demonstrated that Plaintiffs developed the idea of building a new showroom in early 2000, engaged Sceno Plus in May 2000 to develop designs for a new showroom, and that Sceno Plus came up with the idea of a showroom that would resemble the ancient Roman Colosseum and proposed that it be called "Coliseum."
- 102. Accordingly, the Court finds that Plaintiffs breached no contractual duty to Milanian, or any person or entity claiming from, through or under defendant Milanian, in connection with The Colosseum.
- 103. The Court reaches a similar conclusion with respect to a claim by Milanian in tort that Plaintiffs misappropriated his trade secrets or otherwise converted his intellectual property.
- 104. A claim for trade secret misappropriation includes: (1) a valuable trade secret; (2) misappropriation of the trade secret through use, disclosure, or nondisclosure of use of the trade secret; and (3) the requirement that the misappropriation be wrongful because it was made in breach of an express or implied contract or by a party with a duty not to disclose. *Frantz v. Johnson*, 116 Nev. 455, 466, 999 P.2d 351, 358 (2000).
- 105. Conversion under Nevada law requires proof of an act of dominion wrongfully exerted over another's personal property in denial of, or inconsistent with, his rights in that property. Evans v. Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc., 116 Nev. 598, 606, 5 P.3d 1043, 1048 (2000).

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## 106. A trade secret is defined as:

- . . . information, including, without limitations, a formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, product, system, process, design, prototype, procedure, computer programming instruction or code that:
- (a) Derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by the public or any other persons who can obtain commercial or economic value from its disclosure or use; and (b) Is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain it secrecy. Nev. Rev. Stat. 600A.030(5).
- 107. Milanian did not establish that the idea of building a replica of the ancient Roman Coliseum at a property already employing an elaborate Roman theme constitutes a trade secret. The evidence concerning the use of a Roman theme at Caesars Palace shows that this concept is "readily ascertainable by proper means by ...persons [i.e. CWI] who can obtain commercial or economic value from its ... use" and thus is not a trade secret under Nevada law. See id.
- 108. Although courts recognize a proprietary interest in ideas that are not trade secrets, those ideas must be novel. See Nadel v. Play-By-Play Toys & Novelties, Inc., 208 F.3d 368, 378 (2d Cir. 2000).
- 109. The idea of building a replica of an ancient Roman building is not a novel idea, for the evidence showed that Caesars Palace had made wide use of Roman-theme design there since 1966 and that the idea of a replica of the Roman Coliseum was conceived by Mr. Bergé in 1990, and again in 2000.
- 110. Even if Milanian had established that his ideas were protectable or somehow "intellectual property," there is no evidence that Plaintiffs' misappropriated them.
- 111. As discussed above, there was no evidence in that anyone involved in The Colosseum concept or design knew of Milanian's proposal to CWI, or that CWI misused (or even

still had) Milanian's proposal in 2000. Indeed, the August 1996 documents themselves suggest that the proposal was discarded by CWI. The uncontroverted evidence was that none of the sees had any knowledge of the 1996 documents. It was also undisputed that Sceno Plus independently developed the idea of a replica of ancient Roman Coliseum, which also defeats Milanian's trade secret or conversion claims. See Eco-Separator Co., Inc. v. Shell Canada Ltd., 12 U.S.P.Q.2d 1635, 1637 (9th Cir. 1989); see also Kewanee Oil Company v. Bicron Corporation, 416 U.S. 470, 474 (1974).

112. Because the undisputed evidence shows that Plaintiffs violated no right of Milanian's in connection with development of The Colosseum, the Court awards judgment to Plaintiffs on Count Six of the Amended Complaint.

#### V. Remedies

#### A. Declaratory Judgment

113. Plaintiffs have established that there is a controversy that is ripe for adjudication.

See Chiron, 970 F.2d at 887. In order to prevent defendants from interfering with Plaintiffs' rights to the aforementioned marks or interfering with the opening of The Colosseum showroom, the Court declares: (1) that use by CWI and PPE, and any of their respective agents or representatives, of THE COLOSSEUM trademark does not infringe any rights of defendant Milanian, or any person or entity claiming from, through or under defendant Milanian; (2) that defendant Milanian, or any person or entity claiming from, through or under defendant Milanian; has no right, title to THE COLOSSEUM and ROME LAS VEGAS COLOSSEUM, or any mark or domain name including the COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE marks; and (3) that Plaintiffs breached no duty, in contract or tort, to Milanian, or any person or entity claiming from, through or under defendant

Milanian; in connection with the development of The Colosseum.

### B. Permanent Injunction

preliminary injunction, except that for a permanent injunction success on the merits must be shown. See Hilton Hotels Corp., 978 F. Supp. at 1345. Consequently, Plaintiffs must also show (1) irreparable harm; (2) that the balance of the equities weigh in their favor; and (3) that the grant of the injunction is in the public interest. See Stanley v. University of Southern California, 13 F.3d 1313, 1319 (9th Cir. 1994).

### 1. Irreparable Harm

115. Having concluded that Plaintiffs have succeeded on proving infringement, the Court need not address the issue of irreparable harm because as indicated previously, once trademark infringement is established through a showing of a likelihood of confusion, irreparable injury is presumed. *See Brookfield*, 174 F.3d at 1066.

## 2. Balance of the Equities

they have invested millions of dollars promoting the marks. They (and others) have also committed enormous resources in connection with opening THE COLOSSEUM entertainment center.

THE COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE marks have become associated with the exceptional products and services offered by the Plaintiffs. The potential confusion in allowing Milanian to display these marks on the Internet is likely to damage Plaintiffs' reputation. Consequently, the balance of the equities weighs in favor of enjoining defendant from his further unlawful use.

. . . .

#### 3. The Public Interest

- protecting trademarks is to avoid consumer confusion, which is in the public interest. *See, e.g., Sega Enterprises Ltd. v. Accolade, Inc.*, 977 F.2d 1510, 1523 (9th Cir. 1992) (in the context of copyright infringement). It has been established that, Milanian's display of the mark will cause the consumer to be confused as to the source of the products and services offered by Milanian. It is in the public interest not to allow Milanian to mislead the public into thinking that the services offered by Milanian are somehow related to the Plaintiffs when in fact they are not. Enjoining defendants from further display or future use of the marks is necessary to prevent consumer confusion.
- 118. The Court thus finds that Plaintiffs have satisfied the requirements for a permanent injunction, precluding defendant Milanian from using or displaying COLOSSEUM or EMPIRE including the registration of domain names incorporating these trademarks.
- or entity claiming from, through or under him, and all those persons in active concert with them are hereby forever enjoined from using the marks THE COLOSSEUM, ROME LAS VEGAS COLOSSEUM, THE ROMAN EMPIRE and THE EMPIRE, or any designations incorporating the words "COLOSSEUM or "EMPIRE" similar thereto or likely to cause confusion therewith, in the sale, offering for sale, distribution or advertising of casino and casino-related products and services, hotel, restaurant and entertainment services, consulting services to the casino or hotel industry, or similar merchandise and services in any locality in the United States. This injunction includes the registration of any domain name incorporating these terms

120. The Court also finds that based on defendant Milanian's failure to bring any counterclaims relating to 1996 events, that he or any person or entity claiming from, through or under him, has waived such claims and is enjoined from filing such claims in any court.

121. The Court also enjoins Milanian from taking any further action to register any of the aforementioned trademarks.

#### C. Cancellation of Applications and Registrations

rent authority with the USPTO to cancel or otherwise determine the rights to trademark registrations. Cancellation is an appropriate remedy where the litigation revolves around an action for infringement involving a registered mark. *See Sperry Rand Corp. v. Seawol Distributors, Inc.*, 140 U.S.P.Q. 532 (S.D. Cal. 1964). As this Court has determined that Plaintiffs have priority over defendants to THE COLOSSEUM, ROME LAS VEGAS COLOSSEUM, THE ROMAN EMPIRE and THE EMPIRE marks, it hereby orders that the PTO cancel Milanian's applications and/or registrations related to the above marks.

#### D. Transfer of Domain Names

basis for transferring ownership of the domain name. See 15 U.S.C. § 1125(d)(2)(D). This Court finds that Plaintiffs have demonstrated that the domain names lasvegascolosseum.com, colosseumlv.com, and colosseumlasvegas.com are likely to cause consumer confusion. The three most important Sleekcraft factors considered by Courts in determining the likelihood of confusion in the context of web names are (1) the similarity of the marks, (2) the relatedness of the goods or services, and (3) the parties' simultaneous use of the Web as a marketing channel. GoTo.Com,

Inc. v. Walt Disney Co., 202 F.3d 1199, 1204 (9th Cir, 2000). Although the court has discussed these factors in detail above, it will briefly address them as they apply to these domain names.

Plaintiffs' COLOSSEUM mark. Further, Plaintiffs use this web site in promoting its services under the COLOSSEUM mark and have had approximately one million "unique" visitors on the site in only the last six months making it a pivotal marketing tool. This Court therefore concludes that allowing Milanian to maintain ownership of the lasvegascolosseum.com, colosseumly.com, and colosseumlasvegas.com domain names is likely to cause consumer confusion, and orders the Milanian, or any assignee or transferee, to transfer the domain names to CWI within ten business days of this order. Milanian shall pay any transfer fees necessary to accomplish their transfer.

#### E. Attorneys' Fees

- 125. Section 35(a) of the Lanham Act provides that a court may award attorneys fees to the prevailing party in "exceptional cases." 15 U.S.C. § 1117(a). Because prevailing parties are entitled to recover for claims under Section 43(a), one who holds common law tradernark rights is entitled to recover fees. *See id*.
- 126. Generally, a trademark case is exceptional for the purposes of an award of attorneys' fee when the infringement is malicious, fraudulent or willful. *Mirage Resorts, Inc. v. Stripe*, 152 F. Supp. 2d 1208, 1218 (D. Nev. 2000) (citing *Lindy Pen Co. Inc. v. Bic Pen Corp.*, 982 F.2d 1400, 1409 (9th Cir. 1993). The "exceptional cases" requirement is also satisfied where the court finds that claims with respect to trademark rights are "groundless, unreasonable, vexatious, or pursued in bad faith." *Cairns v. Franklin Mint Co.*, 292 F.3d 1139 (9th Cir. 2002) (citation omitted); *Lindy Pen*, 982 F.2d at 1405.

- 127. Irrespective of whether the party seeking the fees is a plaintiff or defendant, the issue is whether the claims or defenses were "groundless," "unreasonable," or maintained "in bad faith" so as to meet the "exceptional cases" requirement. See Stephen W. Boney, Inc. v. Boney Services, Inc., 127 F.3d 821, 827 (9th Cir. 1997).
- 128. Here, Plaintiffs demonstrated that Milanian's attempt to pirate away their rights in COLOSSEUM and EMPIRE theme marks was part of his overarching plan to traffic in trademarks. Notwithstanding the statutory requirements, Milanian filed many trademark applications with no bona fide intent to use the trademark in question. His pattern or practice was to file bogus intent-to-use applications for marks, and attempt to sell or license the "rights" in the marks.
- announcement of the construction of THE COLOSSEUM showroom, as well as his concealing of a claim in these alleged rights to the mark until just days after the announcement of its opening with Celine Dion performing, demonstrates that his objective was to hold Plaintiffs hostage.

  Those facts make this case exceptional under 15 U.S.C. § 1117(a) and justify entering a judgment against Milanian and in favor of Plaintiffs in an amount equal to their attorneys' fees in prosecuting this matter.
- 130. In addition, Milanian's "legal positions" are further proof that his case was meritless. For example, notwithstanding his demanding June 1 telephone call to PPE, Milanian argued in his "summary judgment" brief that Plaintiffs' use of The Colosseum mark was generic, and therefore could not possibly infringe any alleged rights he had in the marks. That position means that his telephone call to PPE's offices on June 1, 2002, demand to speak with the CEO, and statement that Plaintiffs were violating his rights in The Colosseum mark, all had no legiti-

mate purpose. That course of conduct also makes this case "exceptional" and justifies an award of fees.

- mark where the infringer's acts are found to be willful and calculated to trade upon the goodwill of the trademark owner. See 7-11 Minit Markets, Inc. v. Southland Corp., 301 F. Supp. 1000, 1001 (D. Nev 1969). For the reasons stated above, Milanian's conduct constituted infringement and unfair competition under Nevada law and was both willful and was calculated to trade upon the goodwill of Plaintiffs, thereby entitling Plaintiffs to an award of attorneys' fees under Nevada law.
- party in a trade secret misappropriation case in Nev. Rev. Stat. 600A.060. Plaintiffs are also entitled to fees for this claim as well. The Court therefore orders Plaintiffs to submit an application detailing the attorneys' fees and costs expended in relation to those claims within 30 days of this order. Defendant may submit an opposition to this brief limited to the issue of the reasonable-ness of such fees within fifteen days of Plaintiffs' submission.

#### **JUDGMENT**

IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED.

DATED this 2 day of February, 2003.

ROØER L/HUNT(

VNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

#### PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP

(MAIL TO) P.O. BOX 1945, MORRISTOWN N.J. 07962-1945 (DELIVERY TO) 200 CAMPUS DRIVE, FLORHAM PARK, N.J. 07932-0950 (\$73) 966-6300

ATTORNEYS FOR Petitioners
Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place
Entertainment Corporation

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: ATLANTIC COUNTY Docket No. ATL-L-230-03

CYRUS MILANIAN,

Plaintiff,

NOTICE OF FILING A NOTICE OF REMOVAL TO THE UNITED STATES

v.

DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.,

Defendants.

TO: New Jersey Superior Court Clerk, Atlantic County Civil Courthouse 1201 Bacharach Boulevard Atlantic City, NJ 08401 Kenneth S. Goodkind, Esq. Flaster, Greenberg, P.C. 1810 Chapel Avenue West, 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl. Cherry Hill, NJ 08002-4609

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on March 19, 2003, the undersigned attorneys for defendants Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place

EXHIBIT . C

Entertainment Corporation are filing in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey a Notice of Removal, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1446(a), of the foregoing matter.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that pursuant to 28 U.S.C. \$1446(d), the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey shall effect the removal of the above-captioned action to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, and the State court shall proceed no further unless and until this action is remanded.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that true copies of the Notice of Removal and Certification of Service are attached hereto as Exhibits A and B and are served and filed herewith pursuant to 28 U.S.C. \$1446(d).

PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LIP Attorneys for Petitioners Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corporation

BV: KA

RICHARD H. BROWN (RB5858)

DATED: March 18, 2003

• ...

PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP

(MAIL TO) P.O. BOX 1945, MORRISTOWN, N.J. 07962-1945 (DELIVERY TO) 200 CAMPUS DRIVE, FLORHAM PARK, N.J. 07932-0950 (973) 966-6300

ATTORNEYS FOR Petitioners Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corporation

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN,

HONORABLE

Plaintiff,

Civil Action No.

v.

CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.,

NOTICE OF REMOVAL PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a)

Defendants.

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY:

Petitioners Caesars World, Inc. ("CWI") and Park Place Entertainment Corporation ("PPE"), defendants in the above-captioned matter, by its undersigned attorneys, Pitney, Hardin,

1012382A01031803

Kipp & Szuch LLP, file this Notice of Removal from the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Atlantic County, in which it is now pending, to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. In support of removal, petitioners aver and allege as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian ("Milanian") instituted this civil action, entitled Cyrus Milanian v. Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corp., Docket No. ATL-L-230-03, in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Atlantic County (the "State Action"). Milanian asserts claims for, among other things, breach of contract, theft of trade secrets and misrepresentation. There have been no further proceedings in the State Action.
- 2. Annexed hereto as Exhibit A are copies of the Summonses and Complaint filed by Milanian in the State Action on January 27, 2003 and served on petitioners on February 27, 2003.
- 3. Petitioners first received a copy of the Complaint in the State Action on February 27, 2003, the date on which their respective registered agents were served. This petition is being filed within thirty (30) days after service on petitioners of the initial Summonses and Complaint in the State Action.
- 4. This Court has original jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. § 1332, and this action may be removed to this

Court by petitioners pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441, as it is a civil action between citizens of different states and the amount in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs.

5. No prior application for the same or similar relief has been made to this or to any other court.

#### A. Complete Diversity Exists

- 6. Complete diversity of citizenship exists between Milanian and petitioners.
- 7. As claimed in his Complaint, Milanian was, at the time of the institution of this civil action, an individual residing in New Jersey. See Complaint, Paragraph 1 (Exhibit A).
- 8. Contrary to Milanian's allegations in paragraph 2 of his Complaint, petitioner, CWI is, and was at the time of the institution of this civil action, a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of business at 3930 Howard Hughes Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada.
- 9. Petitioner PPE is, and was at the time of the institution of this civil action, a Delaware corporation. Contrary to Milanian's allegations in paragraph 3, PPE's principal place of business is at 3930 Howard Hughes Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada.

10. Because Milanian's citizenship is diverse from that of petitioners, complete diversity exists as required by 28 U.S.C. \$1332. Thus, this action may be removed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. \$1441.

#### B. The Amount in Controversy Requirement is Satisfied

- 11. The amount in controversy in this action exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs. In the Complaint, Milanian seeks, inter alia, compensatory damages, consequential damages, exemplary damages, disgorgement of profits, attorneys fees and costs of suit. Upon information and belief, the amount of Milanian's alleged damage claim exceeds \$75,000.00.
- 12. Accordingly, the jurisdictional amount required by 28 U.S.C. § 1332 is satisfied.
  - C. Fraudulent Joinder of Defendant Park Place Entertainment Corporation
- 13. Milanian has asserted claims against PPE in an apparent effort to defeat diversity. That tactic fails because, as discussed above, CWI and PPE are foreign corporations, each having its principal place of business in Nevada.
- 14. The factual allegations raised and the legal claims asserted by Milanian in the State Action relate exclusively to CWI, and do not involve PPE. Milanian predicates his claims on alleged conduct between Milanian and CWI supposedly taking place

in 1996. At that time, PPE had no relationship to CWI. It was not until 1999 — three years after the alleged conduct giving rise to Milanian's claims in the State Action — that PPE acquired CWI. Although CWI was and continues to be a wholly-owned subsidiary of PPE, there is absolutely no basis for Milanian to allege that PPE owed any duty to him, or that PPE is somehow responsible for the alleged acts of one of its subsidiaries.

15. Therefore, even if Milanian could establish that PPE's principal place of business is in Atlantic City, New Jersey (which he cannot), this Court should retain jurisdiction because Milanian has fraudulently joined PPE in order to destroy diversity. See Abels v. State Farm Fire & Casualty Company, 770 F.2d 26, 32 (3d Cir. 1985) ("Courts have found joinder to be fraudulent where there is no reasonable basis in fact or colorable ground supporting the claim against the joint defendant, or no real intention in good faith to prosecute the action against the defendant or seeks a joint judgment.") (quoting Goldberg v. CPC International, 495 F.Supp. 233, 239 (N.D. Cal. 1980)).

WHEREFORE, petitioners Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corporation respectfully request that the abovecaptioned action be removed from the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Atlantic County, to this Court.

PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP Attorneys for Petitioners Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corporation

Bv:

RICHARD H. BROWN

DATED: March 18, 2003

#### CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO L. CIV. R. 11.2

I certify that the matter in controversy is the subject of an action pending in the United States District Court for the District of Nevada bearing the caption Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corporation v. Cyrus Milanian and the New Las Vegas Development Company, LLC, Case No. S-C2-1287-RLH (RJJ). Although there has been a final judgment entered in that matter, Milanian has filed a post-trial motion.

PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP \*Attorneys for Petitioners
Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place
Entertainment Corporation

By: RICHARD H. BROWN (RB5858)

Dated: March 18, 2003

RECEIVED and FILED

27 2003

FLASTER/GREENBERG P.C. Commerce Center 1810 Chapel Avense West, 3rd Floor Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08802-4609 Pases (856) 641-1908

ATLANTIC COUNTY LAW DIVISION

ARBITARYS for Plaintiff

CYRUS MILANIAN Plaintiff.

CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION ATLANTIC COUNTY DOCKET NO .:

Civil Action

COMPLAINT

Defendance.

CYRUS MELANIAN, by and through his undersigned snormeys, by way of Complaint in this scrion hereby says:

- Plaintiff, Cyrus Milenian ("Milenian" or "Plaintiff"), is an individual who resides in Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey.
- Caosess World, Inc. ("CW") is a corporation organized and existing under the lesses of the State of Morida, and has an office and principal place of business in Allamic City, New Jorsey.
  - Park Place Entertainment Corp. ("PP") is a corporation organized and existing under the leave of the State of Delaware, having an office and principal place of business in Attendic City, New Jersey.
    - CW is a wholly owned subsidiary of PP.
    - On or about May 12, 1996, Milanian submatted an eight-page qualine of a confidential business plan catitled the "Mariania Project" to CW in Las Vegall, Nevalls.

- The Mariania Project included a sub-project for the construction of a replica of the ancient Colissum of Roma and the integration thereof into the Causar's Palace property of CW in Les Vegas, Novada.
- The replica Collegem was to include an entertainment complex including 7. restaurants, theatres, shops and special everus.
  - The above Plaintiff's business plan was novel.
- By letter dated August 12, 1996, CW declined to further consider the Mariania Project and actnowledged the confidentiality of Plaintiff's submission.
- By a cardificate dated August 14, 1996, Devid Mirchell, a vice president of CW. confirmed receipt of the Marlania Project submission, advised Plaintill that CW had no interest thereis "at that time" and further confirmed that the submission was confidential.
- David Mitchell's certificate of August 14, 1996 was notarized by the general
- In April 2001, CW and PP announced the construction of a replica of the countries of CW. Coliseum of Rome as an extension of their property in Las Vegas, and the use thereof as an entertainment and convention vorse, which is presently scheduled to open in March 2003.
- The construction of the replies detailed in the preceding paragraph was identical 13. to the idea previously presented by Plaintiff.
- Despite the fact that Plaintiff had presented the idea of constructing a replica of the Collegues of Rome as an exemption of the CW and PP property in Las Vegus, Defendants failed to provide Plaintiff with any credit, recognition, compensation or remimeration in my COTTAL .

## COUNTI THEFT OF TRADE SECRETS

- The preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth at
- Plaintiff's confidential submissions, containing his ideas, concepts, markit research, business plans, contacts and other information related to the Martania Project to leastb. Defendants, offered aumerous advantages over other entertainment venues.
  - 17. At the time of Plaintiff's presentation and confidential disclosure to the Defendant, there was no such tourist attraction in the Las Veges area or anywhere in the United
  - 18. Prior to the disclosure of the Plaintiff's new concepts and plans in connection States directed to Rome's Colinson. with the Marineis Project to Defendents, there did not exist an entertainment complex replicating Rome's Collegum and including restaurants, thestree, shops and special events.
    - Plaintil's ideas, plans, market research, contact information, consupts, and presentations, which Plaintiff submitted to Defendants and their agents, constituted valuable urade secrets of Plaintiff, contempliated for use by, and with, his businesses, and having great
      - Plaintiff's wade secrets taught Defendants, in business and legal terms. connected value to Defendents. expressions, methods and masses of implementation of Plaintiff's ideas, plans, market research. contact information and concepts disclosed to Defeadams.
        - Such trade secrets were not theretofore known to Dalandans or otherwise known to the public, and could not be independently channel or derived by Defendants by proper, MALEN INCHES

- 22. Plaintiff, at all times, undertook reasonable afforts under the circumstances to maintain the sacracy and confidentiality of his trade secrets and of all disclosures he made to Defordants and their agents, which disclosures were all made in confidence.
- 23. Plaintiff's trade secrets were thoreby sufficiently secret, and derived economic value from the fact that they were not known to the public, including Defendants, who could, did, and continue to obtain independent economic value from their disclosure and use.
  - 24. Plaintiff's trade secrets thereby provided to Defendants an advantage, and/or an opportunity to obtain an advantage, that they would not otherwise have had.
  - 25. Defendants, using improper means, knowingly misapproprieted Plaintiff's trade secrets with willful and malicious intent to deprive Plaintiff of his intellectual property and of rights hald therein by making unauthorized uses and disclosures of Plaintiff's trade secrets.
    - 26. Defendance thereby willfully and maliciously misappropriated Plaintiff's train:
      secrets, to the decrineous of Plaintiff.
    - 27. Plaintiff has been greatly demaged by Defendants' misappropriation of his trade secrets and Defendants have been unjustly enriched.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor against Defendants for compensatory damages, consequential demands, examplary damages, amorneys (sees and cours, dispergement of prefix and any such other relief as this Court decres just and appropriate.

## COUNT II

- 22. The preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth at length.
- 29. Defendants herein miseppropriated Plaintiff's idea for the construction of a replica of the Collegem of Rerne, and made use of Plaintiff's idea for their awa benefit

- Defendants were aided in the development of their own concepts and products by 30. the miseppropriation of Plaintiff & ideas.
  - Plaintiff's idea was novel at the time that it was presented to Defendants.
- Plaintiff's itles was also disclosed in confidence, as the Defendants themselves 31. have admitted and certified.
  - As a direct and proximate result of Defendent's actions, Plaintiff has stratained sabstantial damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor against Defendants for compensatory damages, consequential damages, exemplary damages, attorneys fees and costs, disgorgement of profits and any such other relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

## COUNTIL BREACH OF EXPRESS CONTRACT

- The preceding paragraphs are incorporated hursin by reference as if suc forth at 33. unet
- Defendents expressly agreed that the Mariania Project, as well as the information 34. submitted by Phioliff, was confidential and would be kept confidential.
- By agracing, in writing, to maintain the confidentiality of Plaintiff's Marlania 35. Project, an express contract arose between the parties.
- Defendants agreed that they would not utilize Plaintiff's information unless sustantized to do so.
- Defendents used Plaintiff's Marienia Project, including trade sections and proprietary rights, in conscious disregard of their duty to obtain Plaintiff's permission to do so.
  - Defendants are in breach of the contract.

- 39. Plaintiff has not received legal or equitable consideration under this contract commensurate to the value of the consideration Defendants received from Plaintiff.
- 40. Plaintiff has sufficed, and continues to suffer, harm as a direct and proximate result of such breach including, but not limited to, acconomic harm.
- 41. These acts and omissions of Defendent constituted a material breach of its contract with Plaintiff thereby causing him to suffer irreparable harm.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor against Defendants in: compensatory demages, consequential damages, exemplary demages, anomays fees and costs, disgorgament of profits and any such other relief as this Court deceme just and appropriate,

## COUNTIVE CONTRACT

- 42. The preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth.
- Defendents freely, knowingly and willingly obtained Pleistiff's confidential proprietary information and materials described herein pursuant to as understanding that, and under conditions that, they were not to be used without Plaintiff's prior written permission or consent and adequate compensation.
  - As such, an implied contract arose by operation of law between Plaintiff and
    Defendants.
  - Defendants.

    45. The terms of this contract were that Defendants would compensate Plaintiff if they or their agents disclosed or used or otherwise benefited from say of the ideas, concepting they or their agents disclosed or used or otherwise benefited from say of the ideas, concepting they are items of Plaintiff.

- 46. Defendants did, in fact, knowingly and intentionally use, disclose and otherwise derive benefit from Plaintiff's ideas, concepts, market research, business plans, contacts and other insterials and items in conscious disregard of Plaintiff's rights under said implied contract.
- 47. Plaintiff has not received any equitable or legal consideration under said implied contract.
- 48. Defendants have thereby been unjustly soriched as a result of their wrongfully acquired gains from Plaintiff to the decriment of Plaintiff.
- Plaintiff is thereby entitled to restitution for the unjust enrichment of Defendents extendent to their development and use, present and future, of all appropriated ideas, concepts, market research, business plans, contacts and other materials of Plaintiff, as these ribest above.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor against Defundants for compensatory demands, consequential demands, examplary demands, summers from and come, disporparient of profits and may such other relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

# COUNT IV REFACT OF CONFIDENTIAL RELATIONSHIP

- 50. The proceeding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth at
- Jungth.

  51. A confidencial relationship arose and then existed between Plaintiff and Defendance.

- 52. Defendents, by their acts described herein, knowingly and intentionally breached the supress and implied terms of said confidential relationship with the specific intent to profit thereform.
- 53. Plaintiff has neither consented to nor authorized the use or disclosure of any of his ideas, concepts, market research, business plans, concepts and other materials and items by anyone, and has otherwise not abendoned same.
  - 54. Plaintiff did not have reason to suspect that such a breach of confidence would occur, during or after the period in which he disclosed his ideas, concepts, market research, business plans, contacts and other materials to Defendants.
  - 55. Defendants were aware that their breach of said confidential relationship helped them to facilitate use of Plaintiff's confidentially disclosed ideas, concepts, market research, business plans, contacts and other metorials.
    - 56. Defendents have been unjustly excited by their breach of this confidential relationship with Plaintiff, this to the detriment of Plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor against Defendants for compensatory demands, consequential demandes, examplary demands, interneys fees and costs, disporgement of profits and any such other relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

# MISREPRESENTATION

- 57. The proceeding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth at length.
- 58. If allowed to use Plaintiff's ideas, dusigns, methods and concepts at all.

  Defendance had a day to inflore Plaintiff of their interstant to use Plaintiff's ideas, itematics.

methods and concepts in the construction of a replice of the Collecum of Rome as an extension of their property in Las Vegas prior to accusily doing so.

- 59. Defendants did not exercise reasonable care in processing Plaintiff's 1996 submissions and did not communicate to Plaintiff their true intentions regarding the Coliscum project.
- In order to indece Plaimiff to share his confidential proposal, Defendants 60 represented that all information would remain confidential.
- Milanian relied upon these representations when he disclosed the elements of the Marlania Project to Defendance.
  - These representations were false when made.
- The Defendants had actual or constructive knowledge of their falsity and/or should have had knowledge that the representations were false.
- 64. As a proximate result of Delections' misrepresentations, Plaintiff has suffered substantial damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff domands judgment in his favor against Defendants for compensatory demages, consequential demages, exemplary demages, attorneys fees and costs, diagorgement of profits and any such other relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

#### COUNTY DEFRIMENTAL RELIANCE

- The presenting paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth at 65.
- Defendants promised Plaintiff that all information provided would remain langth. ĠĠ oun fidential.

- 67. Defendants should have expected that Milanian would rely on the promise.
- 68. Plaintiff this in fact rety upon this promise, to his substantial detriment.
- 69. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach, the Plaintiff has suffered substantial damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff dereands judgment in his favor against Defendants for compensatory demages, consequential dereages, exemplary demages, extensive fees and costs, diagongement of profits and any such other relief as this Court deceme just and appropriate.

## CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 4:5-1

Pursuant to the provisions of Rule 4:5-1, 1 harshy certify as follows:

- Except as stated below, the matter in controversy is not the subject of any other pending section in any other court or of a pending arbitration proceeding in this jurisdiction.
- A related action has been pending in the U.S. District Court in the District of Nevada between these parties captioned as Cassare World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corporation v. Cyrus Milanian and The New Las Vegas Development Comp., LLC, CV-S-02-
- It is consemplated that the matter in compoversy will not become the subject of 1287-RLH-BJI any other action is any court or of a pending arbitration proceeding. 3.
  - Plaintill is not sware of any other party that needs to be joined in this proceeding. I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am award that if any of the foregoing statements are withilly false. I am subject to purishment.

FLASTER FREENBERG P.C.

Anomay for Plaintiff

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSTIL

Kenneth S. Goodkind, Require is hereby designated as trial counsel for Plaintiff.

FI ASTERURREENBERGP.C.

Dated: January 24, 2003

Goodking, Esquire

### JURY TRIAL DEMAND

Demand is baroby made for a trial by jury.

FLASTER GREENBERG P.C.

Deted: January 24, 2003

Kenneth S. Goodkind . Liquid

Crack Ser Plain

RECEIVED 15 ANDRAS F. BABERO, EGO. 1 Nevada Bar No.: 001658 9500 Hillwood Drive, Suite 130 2 Las Veges, Nevede 89134 3 (702) 474-4100 HEYADA Attorney for Defendant U.S. 31... DIST 31. 5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 6 DISTRUCT OF NEVADA 7 1 CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE Case No. CV-S-02-1287-RLH-RLI. ENTERTANMENT CORPORATION. 9 10 Plaintiffs. CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 11 12 CYRUS MILANIAN and THE NEW LAS 13 VEGAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC. 14 Defendants. 15 16 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing DEFENDANT CYPLIS 17 MILANIAN'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND ALTERNATION OF JUDGMENTWAS placed 11 In the U. S. mail, postage pre-paid and e-mailed on this  $6^{\rm th}$  day of March, 2003, to: 19 20 Gary R. Goodheart, Esq 21 Nevada Bar # 1203 Shephen W. Feingold JONES VARGAS 22 Richard H. Brown 3773 Howard Hughes Parloray PITNEY, HARDEN, KOPP & SZUCH, LLP Third Floor South 23 685 Third Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89109 New York, New York 10017-4024 E-mail: grg@jonesvargas.com E-mail: aflengoid@pitrey/serdin.com 24 25 LINDA K. JOHN, an employe 26 Law Office of Andres F. Babero 27 23 Received 3-8-03

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FILASTER/GREENBERG, P.C.
By: Kenneth S. Goodkind, Bequire
Commerce Center, Third Floor
1810 Chapel Avenue West
Charry Hill, New Jersey 08002-4609
Phone: (156) 661-1900
Attorneys for Plaintiff

CYRUS MILANIAN,

Plaintiff.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW HERSEY ATLANTIC COUNTY LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO: ATL-L-230-03

₹.

CAPSARS WORLD, INC. and PARK FLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP., SUMMONS DIRECTED TO DESENDANT CAESARS WORLD, INC.

Dedendants.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO THE DEFENDANT(5) NAMED ABOVE:

CAESARS WORLD, INC.

The Plaintiff, named shove, has filed a lawrest against year in the Superior Court of New Jensey. The Complains attached to this Summons states the busis for this housest. If you dispute this Complaint, you or your microwy mast file a written Answer or motion and Proof of Service with the Doputy Clark of the Superior Court in the County Ested shows within 35 days from the date you ment to Summons, not counting the these you received it. (The subject of each deputy clark of the Superior Court is statched husses). If the Complaint is successful it files what you must file your written Answer or medics and Proof of Service with the Clark of the Superior Court, these you must file your written Answer or medics and Proof of Service with the Clark of the Superior Court, Margine Passion Complex, Chieffl, Tracton, NI 08225. A filing the payable to the Clark of the Superior Court and a completed Case Information Superior (available from the deputy elark of the Superior Court) Tracton and a couple of modes when it is filed. You must also send a copy of your Answer or modes to Plaintiff a strongery where must and address uppear above, or to Plaintiff, if no attendey is named shere. A tilephone call will not protect your rights; you must file and serve a vertice Answer or motion tilephone call will not protect your rights; you must file and serve a vertice Answer or motion tilephone call will not protect your rights; you must file and serve a vertice Answer or motion tilephone call will not protect your rights; you must file and serve a vertice Answer or motion tilephone call will not protect your rights; you must file and serve a vertice Answer or motion tilephone.

and completed Case Influentics Statement) if you want the sourt to hear your defence.

If you do not file and serve a written Americ or resolve within 15 days, the court treey enter a judgment against you for the relief plaintiff demonds, plus interest and costs of salt. If judgment is entered against you, the Shortiff many salms your manacty, wages or property to pay all or past of the judgment.

If you cannot affect an estimate, you may call the Lagai Services office in the county where you live. A has of faces offices is provided. If you do not have no attomory and no not eligible for free legal assistance, you rong obtain a schemal to an amounty by calling one of the Lawyer Radianal Services. A list of those numbers in also poorsided.

PLASTE GREEN BORG P.C.

smeth & Gooding, Bennire

Manager of Plaintin

Id Donald E. Phalan Clork

Donald F. Pheten Clerk of the Superior Court

Deted: Followry 11, 2002

Name of Defendant(s) to be served: Caesars World, Inc.

Address for service:

c/o Corporation Service Company, Registered Assent

830 Ben Taven Roed West Trenton, NJ 08628

# Corporation Service Company 2711 Centerville Road Suite 400, Wilmington, DE, 19808 (302) 636-5400

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PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP

(MAIL TO) P.O. BOX 1945, MORRISTOWN, N.J. 07962-1945 (DELIVERY TO) 200 CAMPUS DRIVE, FLORHAM PARK, N.J. 07932-0950 (973) 966-6300

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corporation

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN,

HONORABLE

Plaintiff,

Civil Action No.

v.

CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.,

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE AND OF FILING OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Defendants.

BRIAN G. FRIEL, of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

I am an attorney-at-law of the State of New Jersey and am associated with the firm of Pitney, Hardin, Kipp & Szuch Entertainment Corp. in the above-captioned matter.

- 2. On March 18, 2003, I caused a Notice of Removal of this matter to be forwarded for filing with the Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey.
- 3. On March 18, 2003, I caused to be forwarded for filing with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Law Division, Atlantic County, in Atlantic City, New Jersey a Notice of Filing of the Notice of Removal in the United States District Court of the District of New Jersey.
- 4. On March 18, 2003, I caused to be served upon all counsel and parties of record a copy of the Notice of Removal and the Notice of Filing of the Notice of Removal by sending copies by UPS Next Day Air addressed as follows:

Kenneth S. Goodkind, Esq. Flaster, Greenberg, P.C. 1810 Chapel Avenue West, 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl. Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002-4609

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me is willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

BRIAN G. FRIEL

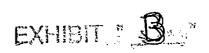
Dated: March 18, 2003

#### NEW JERSEY CASINO INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS FOR THE FOUR YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

	2001	2000	1999	1998
AC Hilton	3,337	3,389	3,285	3,384
Baily's Park Place	5,636	5,611	5,393	5,474
Caesars	4,646	4,432	4,474	4,690
Claridge	2,282	2,379	2,379	2,471
Harrah's	3,172	3,550	3,461	3,478
Resorts	3,151	3,038	3,185	3,197
Sands	3,005	3,079	3,069	3,039
Showboat	3,129	3,194	3,278	3,345
Tropicana	4,958	5,181	5,141	5,078
Trump Marina	3,109	3,484	3,428	3,473
Trump Plaza	3,561	3,929	4,323	5,199
Trump Taj Mahal	5,606	6,160	5,950	5,714
TOTALS	45,592	47,426	47,366	48,542

# NEW JERSEY CASINO INDUSTRY SALARIES AND WAGES FOR THE FOUR YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001 (\$\frac{\structure{5} IN THOUSANDS}{2}}

	2001	2000	1999	1998
AC Hilton	\$84,680	83,075	\$71,314	\$72,008
Bally's Park Place	137,382	136,494	115,046	112,598
Caesars	112,041	111,013	112,405	110,361
Claridge	58,031	54,195	55,094	55,698
Harrah's	82,397	87,186	85,829	84,382
Resorts	71,659	73,600	73,248	75,309
Sands	70,333	69,238	69,034	66,086
Showboat	79,736	80,610	81,750	84,821
Tropicana	102,505	103,539	99,189	96,716
Trump Marina	77,403	78,744	78,655	77,278
Trump Plaza	89,182	91,170	101,166	106,797
Trump Taj Mahal	136,438	138,240	138,645	133,538
TOTALS	\$1,101,787	1,107,104	\$1,081,375	\$1,075,592



MELVIN K. SILVERMAN (MS5178) MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC. mks@powerlaw.net

One Gateway Center, Suite 2600

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 645-9494

attorneys for Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN

Plaintiff

Civil Action No. 03-1259

U.S. District Court Judge Wolfson

v.

CAESARS WORLD, INC., and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

Defendants.

#### **NOTICE OF APPEARANCE**

THE CLERK OF COURT will please note my appearance as counsel for the above-named Plaintiff, CYRUS MILANIAN.

Dated this / 2 day of April, 2003.

Melvin K. Silverman, (MS5178)

mks@powerlaw.net

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC.

EXHIBIT

One Gateway Center,

Suite 2600

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 645-9494

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been delivered by facsimile and U.S. Mail to: RICHARD H. BROWN, of PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP, attorneys for petitioners Caesars World, Inc., and Park Place Entertainment Corporation, at (973) 966-1550, and P.O. Box 1945, Morristown, New Jersey 07962-1945 respectfully.

Melvin K. Silverman (MS5178)

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN (MS5178) MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC.

mks@powerlaw.net

One Gateway Center,

Suite 2600

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 645-9494

attorneys for Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

**CYRUS MILANIAN** 

Honorable Freda L. Wolfson

Plaintiff

Civil Action No. 03-1259

v.

CAESARS WORLD, INC., and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

Defendants.

PLAINTIFF'S OBJECTION TO DEFENDANTS' PETITION FOR REMOVAL, MOTION FOR REMAND

COMES NOW, Plaintiff CYRUS MILANIAN (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through his undersigned counsel, and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1447(c), and hereby files this, his Objection to Defendant's Petition for Removal, and moves this Honorable Court to remand this cause back to the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Atlantic County, and as grounds therefor states:

#### **STATEMENT OF FACTS**:

On or about January 27, 2003, Plaintiff filed its seven (7) count complaint against Defendants for Theft of Trade Secrets, Idea Misappropriation, Breach of Express Contract, Breach of Implied Contract, Breach of Confidential Relationship, Misrepresentation, and Detrimental Reliance, in the Superior Court of New Jersey Law, Division, Atlantic County, New Jersey which was assigned Case Number CACE ATL-L-230-03. On March 18, 2003, Defendant filed an Notice of Filing Notice of and Petition for Removal under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), which, states that "the amount in controversy

EXHIBIT " E "

¶4). However, Plaintiff's complaint, on its face, does not contain any allegations sufficient to satisfy the requisite jurisdictional amount for diversity jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C.1332 (a). Defendants go on to argue that simply by seeking "compensatory damages, consequential damages, exemplary damages, disgorgement of profits, attorney's fees and costs of suit" Plaintiff's damages must exceed the jurisdictional amount, however Defendants have not produced any evidence as to the source of its calculated damages, nor an affidavit to support its allegation.

### I. <u>DEFENDANTS MUST PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF THE</u> <u>PREREQUISITES TO INVOKE THIS COURTS JURISDICTION</u>

As the party invoking federal jurisdiction, the Defendants must prove the existence of the prerequisites of this jurisdiction. *Boyer v. Snap-On Tools Corp.*, 913 F.2d 108, 111 (3d Cir. 1990). If diversity of citizenship constitutes the basis of removal jurisdiction, the Defendants must establish that the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00. *Meritcare Inc. v. St. Paul Mercury Ins. Co.*, 166 F.3d 214, 222 (3d Cir. 1999) ("The burden of establishing the amount in controversy in removal cases rests on the defendant." (citing *Abels v. State Farm Fire & Cas. Co.*, 770 F.2d 26, 29 (3d Cir. 1985))). Defendants must prove the requisite jurisdiction by a preponderance of the evidence. *Penn v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.*, 116 F.Supp.2d 557 (D.N.J.,2000).

# II. ON ITS FACE, PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT DOES NOT ALLEGE FACTS SUFFICIENT TO MEET THE JURISDICTIONAL AMOUNT OF THE U.S. COURTS. REMAND IS THEREFORE NECESSITATED.

Federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction, and a lack of federal subject matter jurisdiction cannot be waived. *Tobin v. U.S.*, 170 F.Supp.2d 472, (D.N.J.,2001). The purpose of the removal statute is to restrict and limit removal jurisdiction; therefore the statute is to be construed narrowly and any doubt should be resolved against removal jurisdiction. *American Fire and Cas*.

Co., v. Finn, 341 U.S. 6 (1951). See, e.g., Boyer v. Snap-On Tools Corp., 913 F.2d 108, 111 (3d Cir. 1990); Carroll v. United Air Lines, Inc., 7 F. Supp. 2d 516, 519 (D.N.J. 1998) (quoting Boyer, 913 F.2d at 111).

It is clear and accepted without question that "[i]f [the Plaintiff] does not desire to try his case in the federal court, he may resort to the expedient of suing for less than the jurisdictional amount, and though he would be justly entitled to more, the defendant cannot remove." St. Paul Mercury Indemnity Co. v. Red Cab Co., 303 U.S. 283, 58 S.Ct. 586, (1938). While the Defendants do have a right, given by statute, to remove in certain situations, Plaintiff is still the master of his own claim. see, Caterpillar, Inc. v. Williams, 482 U.S. 386, 391 & n. 7, 107 S.Ct. 2425, 2429 & n. 7,96 L.Ed.2d 318 (1987); Great Northern R. Co. v. Alexander, 246 U.S. 276, 282, 38 S.Ct. 237, 239, 62 L.Ed. 713 (1918); see generally, Wright & Miller, 14A Federal Practice and Procedure §\$ 3702 ("[p]laintiff is the master of his or her own claim."); see also, St. Paul's, 303 U.S. at 294, 58 S.Ct. at 592. Defendant's right to remove and Plaintiff's right to choose his forum are not on equal footing. Unlike the rules applied when Plaintiff has filed suit in federal court with a claim that, on its face, satisfies the jurisdictional amount, removal statutes are construed narrowly. Boyer v. Snap-on Tools Corp., 913 F.2d 108 (3rd Cir.1990), cert. denied, 498 U.S. 1085, 111 S.Ct. 959, 112 L.Ed.2d 1046 (1991). Where Plaintiff and Defendants clash about jurisdiction, uncertainties are resolved in favor of remand. Id.

This Court must look to the Plaintiff's state court pleading, and not Defendant's Notice of Removal, to determine whether the Complaint can be removed. *Vartanian v. Terzian*, 960 F. Supp. 58 (D.N.J. 1997); *Martin v. Wilkes-Barre Pub. Co.*, 567 F.Supp. 304 (M.D.Pa.1983), (Stating that Plaintiff's state court pleadings control removability). *Zimmerman v. Conrail*, 550 F.Supp. 84 (S.D.N.Y.1982). The Defendants' petition for removal cannot supply the missing elements required

to establish federal jurisdiction. *Irving Trust Co. v. Century Export & Import, S.A.*, 464 F.Supp. 1232 (S.D.N.Y.1979); *Leslie v. BancTec Service Corp.*, 928 F.Supp. 341 (S.D.N.Y.1996); *Dow v. Jones*, 2002 WL 31155609 (D.Md.2002). In this case, Plaintiff's complaint does not allege any jurisdictional amount.

If the ad damnum clause of the Complaint had included a demand for specific amount of damages which was less than jurisdictional amount in controversy, Defendant would be required to prove to legal certainty that Plaintiff could not recover below the jurisdictional amount, even if Plaintiff seeks both compensatory and punitive damages. McGhee v. Allstate Indem. Co., 928 F.Supp. 1102, (M.D.Ala.1996).

Finally, a complaint is fatally defective, as far as diversity jurisdiction is concerned, unless it contains a proper allegation of the amount in controversy. *Bassett v. Toyota Motor Credit Corp.*, 818 F.Supp. 1462, (S.D.Ala.1993). Since the complaint does not contain an allegation regarding the amount in controversy, the case must be remanded. Herein, the only allegation concerning the amount of damages sought by Plaintiff are concerned with the type of damages, rather than an amount. (A copy of the Complaint is attached hereto as **Exhibit "A"**). There are no other allegations on the face of the complaint regarding damages. Therefore, no jurisdiction exists on the face of Plaintiff's Complaint. As such, this cause should necessarily be remanded back to the Superior Court of New Jersey Law Division, Atlantic County, for want of subject matter jurisdiction.

# III. ABSENT EVIDENCE OF DEFENDANTS' PROFITS, THERE CAN BE NO DETERMINATION OF OF THE ACTUAL AMOUNT OF PLAINTIFF'S CLAIM.

In this case, the only allegations regarding the amount of damages were made by the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The complaint requests compensatory damages, consequential damages, exemplary damages, disgorgement of profits, attorneys fees and costs, but does not state an amount of damages.

Defendants in their Petition for Removal. (Def. Notice of Removal ¶ 4). However, Defendants did not submit any evidence on the matter. In the typical removal case, a Plaintiff files suit in state court seeking an amount in excess of the jurisdictional amount for diversity. The Defendants can then remove to the case to federal court if he can show, by a preponderance of the evidence, facts supporting jurisdiction. *McNutt v. General Motors Acceptance Corp.*, 298 U.S. 178, 189, 56 S.Ct. 780, 785, 80 L.Ed. 1135 (1936). The applicable opinions indicate that the Defendants' burden of proof in this regard must be a heavy one. Winters Gov't Securities Corp., supra at 242; see also, Burns v. Windsor Ins. Co., 31 F.3d 1092, 1095 (11th Cir. 1994); Boyer, supra at 110-112. These standards give great weight to Plaintiff's assessment of the value of his case. Burns, supra at 1095. Thus, a Plaintiff who artfully pleaded his claim could avoid federal jurisdiction. Id.

Because of the nature of this suit, damages are difficult to ascertain, and calculate. Plaintiff anticipates hiring a damages expert to determine the amount of damages. Plaintiff, at this time, has no way to ascertain the amount of damages without engaging in discovery. Currently, there exists no evidence in the record whatsoever that Plaintiff's claims are in excess of the jurisdictional amount.

#### IV. <u>DEFENDANTS WERE PROPERLY JOINED.</u>

Defendants have alleged that Plaintiff's only joined Park Place Entertainment, Inc., ("PPE") in order to avoid diversity. (Def. Notice of Removal ¶ 13). In fact, Plaintiff has just reasons for including PPE as a Defendant. Paragraphs 12 and 14 of the Complaint allege that both CWI, and PPE are making use of Plaintiff's trade secrets. In addition PPE owns the various properties where Plaintiff's trade secrets are being used, and the principal agent relationship, if any, of the Defendants is not yet known.

#### V. DEFENDANTS PPE AND CWI HAVE THEIR PRINCIPAL PLACE OF

#### **BUSINESS IN NEW JERSEY**

The Third Circuit gave meaning to the phrase "principal place of business" in *Kelly v. United States Steel Corp.*, 284 F.2d 850 (3d Cir.1960), concluding that "corporate activities" determine the corporation's principal place of business. *Kelly*, 284 F.2d at 854. PPE's owns properties in the second largest gaming market in the United States, namely New Jersey. (Page 1 of PPE's 2001 Annual Report attached hereto as **Exhibit "B"**). For the year 2001, PPE employed in excess of 15,000 people in New Jersey alone. (Page 24 of New Jersey Casino Control Commission Annual Report for the year 2001 attached hereto as **Exhibit "C"**). In addition the Article 6 § 5:12-82(d) of the New Jersey Casino Control Act (NJSA § 5:12-82(d)) provides:

- d. No corporation shall be eligible to apply for a casino license unless:
  - (1) The corporation shall be incorporated in the State of New Jersey, although such corporation may be a wholly or partially owned subsidiary of a corporation which is organized pursuant to the laws of another state of the United States or of a foreign country;
  - (2) The corporation shall maintain an office of the corporation in the casino hotel licensed or to be licensed;
  - (3) The corporation shall comply with all the requirements of the laws of the State of New Jersey pertaining to corporations;
  - (4) The corporation shall maintain a ledger in the principal office of the corporation in New Jersey which shall at all times reflect the current ownership of every class of security issued by the corporation and shall be available for inspection by the commission or the division and authorized agents of the commission and the division at all reasonable times without notice;

Defendants work in conjunction to operate several gaming establishments, as well as hotels, in New Jersey. Defendants PPE and CAESARS both have their principal office in New Jersey, as mandated by their licensing requirements.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>PPE owns and manages the Atlantic City Hilton, Bally's Park Place, Caesars and the Claridge

#### **CONCLUSION**

The Defendants have their principal place of business in New Jersey, and so no diversity of citizenship exists. In addition, Plaintiff has not fraudulently joined PPE in order to defeat diversity. Furthermore, there is nothing, within the four corners of the complaint, which would suggest an amount of damages. Since the Complaint does not state grounds for removal, on its face, the Defendants' are not entitled to remove the case, and this Court must decline to exercise diversity jurisdiction over this claim and remand the same to the Superior Court of New Jersey Law Division, Atlantic County pursuant to the rationale set forth in Sections I-V, supra

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court decline to exercise diversity jurisdiction over this claim and remand the same to the Superior Court of New Jersey Law Division, Atlantic County.

Dated this 17th, day of April, 2003.

Melvin K. Silverman (MS5178)

mks@powerlaw.net

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC.

One Gateway Center,

Suite 2600

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 645-9494

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been delivered by facsimile and U.S. Mail to: RICHARD H. BROWN, of PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP, attorneys for petitioners Caesars World, Inc., and Park Place Entertainment Corporation, at (973) 966-1550, and P.O. Box 1945, Morristown, New Jersey 07962-1945 respectfully.

Melvin K. Silverman (MS5178)

#### **CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO L. CIV. R. 11.2**

I certify that there is an action pending in the United States District Court for the District of Nevada bearing the caption, Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corporation v. Cyrus Milanian and the New Las Vegas Development Company, LLC, Case No. S-02-1287-RLH (RJJ). However, the matter in controversy is not the subject of the pending action in Nevada. A final judgment has been entered in the pending action in Nevada, but the Plaintiff, Cyrus Milanian has filed a post-trial motion.

Dated this 17th, day of April, 2003

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC. attorneys for Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian

By:		
J	Melvin K. Silverman (MS5178)	

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PLASTER/GREENBERG P.C. Commander Center 1810 Chapel Avenue West, 3rd Floor Cherry Hall Now Jersey 05002-1609 Phone: (854) 661-1900 Amoranys for Plaintil

ATLASTIC COUSTY MA DAISION

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN

Plaintiff

71

CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

Civil Action

COMPLAINT

LAW DIVISION

ATLANTIC COUNTY DOCKET NO:

Defendant.

CYRUS MELANIAN, by and through his texteraigned encrease by way of Complaint in क्षां इटलंडन मिनक्षेत्र हार्यः

- Plainder, Cyrus Millerian ("Millerian" er "Plaintier"), is en individual who resides in Jersey City, Hardson County, New Jersey.
- Cremes World, Inc. ("CW") is a corporation organized and existing union the land of the State of Piccide, and has an office and principal place of business in Allamic City, New Jerry
- Park Place Emercanized Cosp. ("PP") is a corporation organized and existing wader the least of the Stees of Dolawers, having an office and principal place of business in Attactic City, Non Jersey.
  - CW is a school owned subsidiary of PP.
  - On or about May 12, 1996, Miledan subredted as eight-page oraline of a confidential duriness plan entitled the "Morlania Project" to CW in Las Vogas, Nevela

# CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 4:51

Pursuent to the provisions of Rule 4:5-1, I harply certify as follows:

- Except as stand below, the matter in controversy is not the subject of any other banding series in any other court or of a pending arbitration proceeding in this jurisdiction.
- A related series has been pending in the U.S. District Court in the District of Navada between these parties exprised as Comers World, Inc. and Purk Place Entertainment Corporation v. Cyrus Milanian and The New Los Vegas Development Comp., LLC, CV-S-02-
  - It is contained that the matter in compressy will not become the subject of 1237-RLH-BUL क्ष्में रुक्त स्वांद्रम वि क्ष्में दलवा व श्री व व्यानीता व क्षांत्र व विवासीता व
    - Plaintiff is not essure of any other pury that roads to be joined in this proceeding. I hereby certify that the forespoint statements made by the are true. I am sware that if any of the foregoing statements are withilly false. I am subject to purishment

Accounty for Plainfill

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL.

Kesses S. Goodkind, Roquite is horsely designated as trial coursel for Plainfull.

FIASTER FREENBERGP.C.

Detect January 24, 2003

Gooding Papules

- The Marienia Project included a sub-project for the construction of a replica of the ancient Colission of Rome and the integration thereof into the Causar's Palice property of CH in Fat Actor Honsoft
- The replica Collegum was to include an entertainment complex including त्याञ्चात्रमञ्ज्ञ, तिक्ताच्य क्रेस्ट्र वार्थ क्र्यांची स्पन्नडः
  - The shows Plaintiff's business plan was novel.
- By lotter desaid August 12, 1996, CW destined to further consider the Mardania Project and actinowledged the confidentiality of Plaintiff's submission.
- By a cardificus dated August 14, 1996, David Minthell, a vice president of CW. conferred receipt of the Marlania Project submission, advised Plaintiff that CW had no impress फेल बंद "या फेल पालड" कर्ज फिरफेल क्यापिताच्ये प्रेय फेट क्राप्ट्रेयांच्या पाल क्यापिताच्यांचा.
- David Mitchell's certificate of August 14, 1996 was retained by the general
- la April 2001, CW and PP suppressed the construction of a replica of the क्ष्याच्या विदास Coliners of Rome as an extension of their property in Les Vegra, and the use thereof as an constrainment and economica varies, which is presently scheduled to open in March 2003.
- The construction of the replica described in the preceding purgraph was identical 13. to the idea previously presented by Plaintiff.
- Despite the fact that Plaintiff had presented the idea of constructing a rapides of the Collegues of Rome as an exception of the CW and PP properly in Las Vegas, Defendants failed to provide Phinliff with any credit, recognition, compensation or remimeration in any COTTAL.

#### COUNTI THEFT OF TRADE SECRETS

- The proceding purigraphs are incorporated hardin by reference क्षां है क्ये दिलाई है। المتناها
- Plaistiff's confidential extensions, containing his ideas, exceeds, market resourch, business plans, consider and other information related to the Marketia Preject to Delections, offered summarous advantages over other estatainment venues.
  - 17. At the time of Phinis of presentation and confidential disclosure to the Defendant, there was no such ward surretion in the Las Vegas area or enjoyens in the United States directed to Rome's Colisians.
    - 18. Price to the disclosure of the Phintill's new concepts and plans in connection with the Meritain Project to Defortisett, there that the exist to extend named complex rapidating Rema's Collegen and including restaurants, thesites, stops and special events.
      - 19. Plaintiff's ideas, plans, marker recently, contact information, concepts, and presentations, which Phirmill submitted to Defendants and their agents, committed valuable unds sources of Phaintiff, commenciated for use by, and with his businesses, and having provide
        - Phirally a rade manule cought Defendants, in business and legal cormer, CONTRACTOR VIEW 10 Defendants expressions, materia and resease of implementation of Plaintiffs ideas, plant, market research, contact information and exocepts disclosed to Defendents.
          - ्रिट्यो स्थिति क्ष्माच्य भवाव कवा ग्रेज्यक्ष्यक्षित्व ह्रायक्षण का प्रश्लेक्षणक व्य व्यवस्थानः हात्वणा to the public, and could not be independently chanced or carived by Defendance by Pripar. party means

- Plaintff, at all times, undercook reasonable afforts under the circumstances to maintain the secrety and confidentiality of his trade secrets and of all disclosures he made to Descendents and their agents, which disclosures were all made in confidence.
- Plaintiffs unds secrets were thereby sufficiently secret, and derived economic value from the fact that they were not known to the public, including Delendrants, who could, did, and continue to obtain independent economic value from their disclosure and use.
  - Plaintiff's trade secrets thereby provided to Defendants on advantage, and/or an opportunity to obtain an advantage, that they would not otherwise have had.
  - Defendants, using improper means, knowingly misepproprieted Phintill's trade secrats with willful and malicious intent to deprive Plaintiff of his intellectual preparty and of rights held therein by making unsurhorized uses and disclosures of Plaintiff's trade secrets.
  - Defendance thereby willfully and maliciously missipprepriated Plaintiff's trade 36. secrets, to the destinent of Plaineil.
  - Plaintiff has been greatly damaged by Defendants' missuppropriation of his trada 27. secrets and Defendants have been unjustly enriched.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor equires Defendants for ट्याने अवस्थाति । स्थान केर्यं व्यान देशान वृत्तान वृत्तान वृत्यान वृत्तान वृत्तान वृत्यान disgorgancent of profits and any such other relief as this Court decens just and appropriate.

#### COLVILI IDEA MISAPPROPRIATION

- The practing paragraphs are incorporated benefit by reference as if set forth at 22
- Defendants herein miseppropriated Plaintiff's idea for the construction of a lecosts. replies of the Collegem of Rema, and made use of Platelle's idea for their ewa benefit

- Defendants were sided in the development of their own concepts and products by 30. the missppropriation of Plaintiff's ideas.
  - Plaind It's idea was novel at the time that it was presented to Defendants. 30.
- Plaintiff's idea was also disclosed in confidence, as the Defendants themselves have admitted and certified
- As a direct and proximate result of Defendent's actions, Plaintiff has sumained enparential gemeser

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor against Defendants for रत्माकृत्यात्राकाम् वेत्राम्बद्धाः व्यवस्थाये वेत्राम्बद्धाः वेद्याम्बद्धाः व्यवसायकः विवास वींअनुराह्मात्मा र्श मिट्रीय धार्य सांप्र अधी रहेस्त न्यांजि स्व प्रेयं दिल्ला देख्या वृथ्यं वार्य अनुराद्धांत्र

# BREACH OF EXPRESS CONTRACT

- The practing paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference as if so, forth a 33. Langib
- Defendant expressly agreed that the Markania Project, as well as the information 34. momined by Phintiff was confidential and would be kept confidential.
- By agracial in writing to maintain the confidentiality of Plaintiff's Marlania 35. Project, an express econoci areas between the parties.
- Defendants agreed that they would not utilize Phintiff's information unlaws
- Defendants used Plaintiff's Mariania Project, including trade secrets and ध्यक्रेटलंड्स्स १० देव ३०. proprietary rights, in conscious disregard of their duty to obtain Plaintiff's permission to do so.
  - Defendant का in branch of the contract.

- 39. Plaintiff has not received legal or equivable consideration under this contract commensurate to the value of the consideration Defendants received from Plaintiff.
- 40. Plaintiff has suffered, and communes to suffer, here as a direct and preximate result of such breach including, but not limited to, economic harm.
- 41. These acts and consistent of Defendant constituted a metanial breach of its contract with Philosoff thereby consing him to suffer irreparable harm.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor against Defendants for compensatory demands, econoquential demander, exemplary demander, unemoys fore and court, dispergement of profits and any such other relief as this Court decent just and appropriate,

## COUNT IV ERPACT OF IMPLIED CONTRACT

- The preceding puragraphs are incorporated bernia by reference as if sex forth a length.
- 41. Defendents frestly, knowingly and willingly obtained Plaintiff's confidential proprietary information and materials described barein pursuant to as understanding that, and under conditions that, they was not to be used without Plaintiff's frior written pormission or someons and adequate compensation.
  - As such, an implied contract prose by operation of law between Plaintiff and
    Defendants.
  - 45. The terms of this contract were that Defender's would compensate Plaintiff if they or their system dischard or used or otherwise benefited from any of the ideas, concepts, market research, business plans, contacts and other materials and items of Plaintiff.

- 46. Defendants did, in Ear, knowingly and intentionally use, disclose and otherwise derive benefit from Plaintiff's ideas, concepts, market research, business plans, contacts and other transfels and items in conscious disregard of Plaintiff's rights under said implied contract.
- 47. Plaintiff has net received any equitable or legal consideration under said implied coracact.
- 48. Defections have thereby been unjustly excited as a result of their wrongfully acquired gains from Plaintiff to the decriment of Plaintiff.
- 49. Plaintiff is thereby entitled to restination for the unjust entitionant of Defendants attended to their development and use, present and fature, of all appropriated ideas, concepts, market research, business plant, contacts and other materials of Plaintiff, as described above.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his layer against Defendants for compensatory demands, consequential demands, exemplary demands, automorphisms and count, dispersament of profits and may such other relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

# COUNT IV BREACH OF CONFIDENTIAL RELATIONSHIP

- 50. The preceding puregraphs are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth at
- Imptil

  51. A confidencial relationship acose and then existed between Plaintiff and
  Defendance

- 52. Defendants, by their acts described herein, knowingly and intensionally breached the supress and implied terms of said confidential relationship with the specific falsat to profit therefrom.
- 53. Plaintiff has mather communication nor authorized the use or disclosure of any of his ideas, correspis, market research, business plans, connects and other materials and items by anyone, and has otherwise not abandoned some.
  - 54. Plaintiff did not have remos to suspect that such a breach of confidence would come, during or after the period in which he disclosed his ideas, correspe, market research, business plans, corrects and other materials to Defendants.
    - 55. Defendants were aware that their branch of said confidential relationship belief them to facilitate use of Printiell's confidentially disclosed ideas, concepts, market research, business plans, contacts and other metanishs.
    - 56. Defendants have been unjustly enriched by their breach of this confidential relationship with Plaintiff, this to the detriment of Plaintiff.

WHEREPORE, Plaintiff demands judgment in his favor against Defendants for compensatory demands, excesspential demands, exemplary demands and exemplary demands and expendential demands of profess and any such other relief as this Court desents just and appropriate.

#### COUNTY MISREPRESENTATION

- 57. The presenting paragraphs are incorporated barsin by reference as if set forth at length.
- 53. If pilowed to use Pialmiff's ideas, designs, methods and coccepts at all.

  Defections had a duty to inform Pialmiff of their intensions to use Pialmiff's ideas, thesigns.

methods and concepts in the commercian of a raplice of the Coliscom of Rome as an extrasion of their property in Les Veges prior to actually doing so.

- 59. Defradants did not exercise reasonable care in processing Plaintiff's 1996 submissions and did not communicate to Plaintiff their true intensions regarding the Coliseum ದ್ರಾವರ್ಷ
- In order to induce Plaintiff to share his confidential proposal, Defendance 60. represented that all information would remain confidential.
- Milesian relied upon these representations when he disclosed the elements of the Marieris Project to Defendance.
  - These representations were false when made.
- The Defendants had actual or constructive becominding of their falsity and/or 62 63. should have had knowledge that the representations were false.
- As a proximate result of Defendance' misrepresentations, Plaintiff has suffered miserated durages

WHEREFORE, Phisniff commends judgment in his favor against Defendants for टाम्प्रकारम्या देशायकृत्य, टाम्प्रव्यक्तांचे देशायकृत्य, स्टास्कृत्य, स्टास्कृत, स्टास्कृत, स्टास्कृत, स्टास्कृत, स्टास्कृ dispergement of profits and any such other relief to this Court deans just and appropriate.

### COUNTY

- The promoting paragraphs are incorporated barein by reference as if and forth at 65.
- Defendents promised Plaintiff that all Information provided would remain leages. 66. confidential.

- 67. Defendants should have expected that Milanian would rely on the promise.
- 65. Plaintiff this in fact rety upon this promise, to his substantial datriment.
- 69. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach, the Phintiff has suffered substantial damages.

WHEREFORE, Phinalfi demands judgment is his favor against Defendants for componentary demands, consequential demands, examplery demands, entempts fees and costs, dispersement of profits and my such other talket as this Court deems just and exprepriests.

### JURY TRUAL DEMAND

Demand is bereby made for a trial by jury.

FLASPER GREENBERG P.C.

Dated: January 24, 2003

Konneth's Gooding, Haquire

Doran & Plaint

# ORIGINAL CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO

		VIII TO THE TOTAL THE TOTAL TO THE TOTAL TOT
1	Stephen W. Feingold (SF 2763) Richard H. Brown (RB 5858)	
2	PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP 685 Third Avenue	2003 MAN 24 P 3 25
3	New York, New York 10017-4024 Telephone: (212) 297-5800	
4	Gary R. Goodheart, Esq.	Olm
5	Nevada Bar #1203 JONES VARGAS	Colon Colon
6	3773 Howard Hughes Parkway, Third Floor S Las Vegas, Nevada 89109	
7	Telephone: (702) 862-3300 Facsimile: (702) 737-7705	
8	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Caesars World, Inc.	
9	and Park Place Entertainment Corporation	
10	UNITED STATES I	DISTRICT COURT
11	FOR THE DISTRI	CT OF NEVADA
12		
13	CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION,	: Hon. Roger L. Hunt, U.S.D.J.
14	Plaintiffs,	: CV-S-02-1287-RLH(RJJ)
15	V.	•
16	CYRUS MILANIAN and THE NEW LAS	•
17	VEGAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC,	:
18	Defendants.	•
19		_ ·
20		
21	PLAINTIFFS' OPPOSITION TO DE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERA	EFENDANT CYRUS MILANIAN'S
22	JUDGMENT AND PLAINTIFFS' C	ROSS-MOTION FOR CONTEMPT
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		1 1
28		77/78
		" ·

77/78
EXHIBIT \* \_ **F** 

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#### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

Plaintiffs Caesars World, Inc. ("CWI") and Park Place Entertainment Corp. ("PPE") submit this brief in opposition to Defendant Cyrus Milanian's ("Milanian") Motion for Reconsideration and Alteration of Judgment ("Reconsideration Motion") and in support of Plaintiffs' Cross-Motion for Contempt.

The Reconsideration Motion is a baseless attempt by Milanian to avoid a finding of contempt for maintaining a lawsuit in New Jersey state court (the "New Jersey Action") for the same claims that this Court found to be waived compulsory counterclaims. Milanian filed the New Jersey Action on January 27, 2003, but concealed its existence from Plaintiffs until serving them on February 27, 2003. Milanian also did not tell this Court in his post-trial papers (filed on or about February 14, 2003) that he had filed the state court complaint three weeks earlier.

The Court's February 19, 2003 Judgment ("the February 19<sup>th</sup> Judgment") clearly bars Milanian from prosecuting the claims underlying the New Jersey Action in any forum. As soon as receiving the February 19<sup>th</sup> Judgment, Milanian should have withdrawn the New Jersey Action. Instead, Milanian served the complaint from the New Jersey Action. The Reconsideration Motion was filed two days after Plaintiffs advised Milanian's New Jersey counsel that absent resolution of the New Jersey Action Plaintiffs would seek an order of contempt.

#### **FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

The February 19<sup>th</sup> Judgment sets forth in detail the factual and procedural history of this case, and will not be repeated here. For purposes of this motion, Plaintiffs discuss the following facts and procedural history.

In his Answer to Plaintiffs' October 2002 Complaint, Milanian did not demand a jury trial. In December 2002, the Court scheduled a final trial on the merits for January 21, 2003. The matter was tried from January 21 to January 23, 2003. In their January 21, 2003 proposed findings, which were filed and served before trial began that day, Plaintiffs indicated that they would move this Court for a finding that any claims by Milanian with respect to developing a concept relating to The Colosseum, specifically Milanian's purported claim that he developed

this concept in 1996, be deemed compulsory counterclaims and thus waived by Milanian. Plaintiffs' Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, dated January 21, 2003 ("Plaintiffs' January 21 Findings") at 28-29, ¶¶32-38. Plaintiffs also stated their intention to seek to amend their Complaint to include a count six for declaratory judgment on any claim arising out of the 1996 events. *Id.* at ¶40-41. In response, Milanian neither objected to the proposed amendment nor complained about losing his right to a jury trial on the new claim.

Indeed, Milanian's witness list, prepared and served before the start of the trial, identified four individuals previously affiliated with or employed by CWI that were referenced in the 1996 documents on which Milanian now bases the New Jersey Action. See New Jersey Complaint ¶¶5-11, which is attached to Milanian's Reconsideration Motion. As a result, Plaintiffs presented evidence at trial to establish their claim for declaratory judgment on what would become the newly added count six. As set forth and explained in their post-trial submissions, a significant part of Plaintiffs' case went to the 1996 issue. Plaintiffs submitted evidence from witnesses, including one who traveled from Montreal, Canada, on those issues. Milanian not only did not object to that evidence when it was offered, but his counsel cross-examined on this area extensively. At no point did Milanian ever argue that he was entitled to have the claim tried to a jury.

After the close of evidence on January 23, 2003, Plaintiffs moved formally for leave to amend the Complaint. The Court granted the motion, but reserved on the question of whether there was sufficient evidence to enter judgment on that count. Once again, Milanian said nothing about a right to a jury trial. The Court then specifically directed the parties to submit post-trial briefs as to the merits of the newly added count six. Reporter's Transcript of Court Trial, January 23, 2003 at 473-77. For the third time, Milanian remained silent about any right to a jury trial.

In the February 19<sup>th</sup> Judgment, the Court ruled that Milanian's purported claims in developing the concept of a replica of the ancient Roman Colisseum in 1996 were sufficiently related factually and legally to the subject matter of this action "that such claims should have been asserted as compulsory counterclaims." February 19<sup>th</sup> Judgment at 52, ¶91. As such, this

Court held that "Milanian's failure to assert claims related to the 1996 events as compulsory counterclaims in this action means that he has waived them." *Id.* at 53, ¶92. In order to necessarily provide finality to this ruling, the Court specifically enjoined Milanian from bringing these compulsory counterclaims in any subsequent federal or state court action. *Id.* at 53, ¶93, 60, ¶120.

While recognizing that this holding made the amended count six moot, as an alternative basis for the relief granted, the Court also entered judgment in favor of Plaintiffs on the amended count six, finding that Plaintiffs' development of The Colosseum breached no duty, in either contract or tort, to Milanian arising out of any events in 1996. *Id.* at 59, ¶11.

On January 27, 2003, more than two weeks before filing his post-trial brief, Milanian filed a complaint in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Cyrus Milanian v. Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corp. In that complaint, Milanian asserts claim for: (1) theft of trade secrets; (2) idea misappropriation; (3) breach of express contract; (4) breach of implied contract; (5) breach of confidential relationship; (6) misrepresentation; and (7) detrimental reliance. All of these counts are predicated upon Milanian's factual claims of developing the concept of the replica of The Colosseum in 1996 and presenting it to CWI. See New Jersey complaint ¶¶5-14.

Milanian did not serve Plaintiffs with a summons and complaint in the New Jersey action until February 27, 2003. On March 4, 2003, Plaintiffs' counsel, Stephen Feingold, contacted Milanian's New Jersey counsel, Kenneth Goodkind, to discuss the New Jersey Action. Affidavit of Stephen W. Feingold in Support of Plaintiffs' Opposition and Cross-Motion for Contempt ("Feingold Aff.") at ¶4. On that call, Mr. Goodkind advised that he had only received that day a copy of the February 19<sup>th</sup> Judgment. *Id.* Mr. Feingold told Mr. Goodkind that absent immediate resolution of Milanian's New Jersey Action (*i.e.*, voluntary dismissal by Milanian), Plaintiffs would seek contempt charges. *Id.* Milanian filed the Reconsideration Motion in this Court two days later.

#### **ARGUMENT**

 Milanian's filing of the New Jersey action highlights the correctness of the Court's decision to issue an injunction and award judgment to Plaintiffs on the new count six in the Amended Complaint. The Court should reject Milanian's motion for the reasons outlined below and order the contempt sanctions requested by Plaintiffs. If Milanian disputes the February 19<sup>th</sup> Judgment, he is entitled to appeal to the Ninth Circuit. He may not, however, obtain a "second bite of the apple" in a New Jersey state court.

## I. MILANIAN HAS NO GROUNDS TO MOVE FOR RECONSIDERATION OR ALTERATION OF THE FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> JUDGMENT.

Although Milanian does not specify the rule upon which he moves for reconsideration and alteration, the only basis for such a motion is Fed. R. Civ. P. 59(e). That rule establishes that in order to alter or amend a court's judgment, a party must show exceptional circumstances justifying such relief. A party may move under Rule 59(e) only if "the district court is presented with newly discovered evidence, committed clear error, or if there is an intervening change in the controlling law." 389 Orange St. Partners v. Arnold, 179 F.3d 656, 665 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999); see also Mt. Graham Red Squirrel v. Madigan, 954 F.2d 1441, 1463 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992) (relief under Rule 59(e) also for fraud). A party cannot raise arguments or evidence that was available to it, but that it did not present at trial. Cf. Lyons v. Jefferson Bank & Trust, 954 F.2d 716, 728 (10<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1993) ("If a party, through negligence or a tactical decision, fails to present evidence that was available, it may not find refuge. . . .").

Milanian cannot allege any of those necessary predicates for relief under Rule 59(e) because none of them exist. The Reconsideration Motion contains no new evidence or any legal arguments that were not available to him when he tried this matter or filed his post-trial papers. The Court's February 19 Judgment is based on sound, accurate analysis of the facts and the law. Milanian's failure to establish any of the prerequisites grants this Court the authority to reject Milanian's motion without considering the substantive arguments.

Indeed, the only fraud in this case is the one Milanian has committed by not telling the Court about the New Jersey Action in his post-trial submissions. Milanian made the following arguments in his post-trial submissions:

- [E]ven putting aside Rule 11 and the criteria for bringing a proper claim in federal court, the 1996 letters do not begin to articulate a claim even in the layman's sense of the word. (Def. Post-Trial Brf. at 6).
- [A]djudicating the 1996 Claims would be error, because there is no case or controversy at this time, and the Court's Article III jurisdiction does not permit its intervention into matters where no case or controversy exists. (Id. at 7).
- [T]he 1996 Claims is not the subject of a case or controversy. Therefore, this Court would be exceeding its jurisdiction under Article III of the Constitution if it decided this issue. (Id. at 13).
- Milanian submits there is no claim ripe . . . for declaratory judgment. The declaratory judgment statute, 28 U.S.C. § 2201, requires the existence of a case or controversy. (Id.).

For Milanian to argue now that "had the Court taken the State Action into account, it would have [not issued an injunction]" simply underscores the outrageousness of Milanian's conduct. Milanian's assertions in his post-trial submissions cannot be squared with the claims he had asserted just two weeks prior in the New Jersey Action. Milanian is playing fast and loose with both this Court and the New Jersey courts. This conduct is sanctionable. Moreover, the doctrine of judicial estoppel bars Milanian from taking these totally inconsistent positions. See Hamilton v. State Farm Fire and Cas. Co., 270 F.3d 778, 782 (9th Cir. 2001) (judicial estoppel seeks to prevent parties from asserting inconsistent positions in different forums to gain advantage).

### II. MILANIAN'S SUBSTANTIVE ARGUMENTS ARE MERITLESS.

Milanian bases his motion for reconsideration on two arguments: (1) this Court exceeded its authority by enjoining Milanian from pursuing his 1996 Claims in state court; and (2) this Court has violated Milanian's constitutional right to a trial by jury on Plaintiffs' declaratory judgment count. Both arguments are groundless.

A. This Court Has The Authority To Enjoin Milanian From Filing Compulsory Counterclaims In Any Federal And State Court.

The Court's injunction barring Milanian from filing related claims in a federal or state action is entirely appropriate and fully consistent with the decision in Seattle Totems Hockey

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Absent some affirmative explanation from counsel that they were unaware of the New Jersey Action at the time they filed Milanian's post-trial submissions, a Fed. R. Civ. P. 11 inquiry is appropriate.

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Club, Inc. v. National Hockey League, 652 F.2d 852, 854-55 (9th Cir. 1981), cert. denied, 457 U.S. 1105 (1982) (cited by the Court in the February 19th Judgment). The Court's injunction is based "on the long recognized power of courts of equity to effectuate their decrees by injunctions or writs of assistance and thereby avoid re-litigation of questions once settled between the same parties." Wesch v. Folsom, 6 F.3d 1465, 1470 (11th Cir. 1993) (citing Root v. Woolworth, 150 U.S. 401, 411-12 (1893); Hamilton v. Nakai, 453 F.2d 152 (9th Cir. 1971), cert. denied 406 U.S. 945 (1972)).

This equitable power has been codified by Congress in the All-Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651, which gives federal courts the power to issue injunctions in aid of their jurisdiction. Courts routinely have held that the All-Writs Act also empowers federal courts to issue injunctions to protect or effectuate their judgments. E.g., Wesch, 6 F.3d at 1470; Kinnear-Weed Corp. v. Humble Oil & Ref. Co., 441 F.2d 631, 637 (5th Cir), cert. denied, 404 U.S. 941 (1971); Ward v. Pennsylvania New York Cent. Transp. Co., 456 F.2d 1046, 1048 (2d Cir. 1972); see also McIntyre v. McIntyre, 771 F.2d 1316, 1318-19 (9th Cir. 1985) (noting district court's "virtually unflagging obligation . . . to exercise the jurisdiction given them" even if it requires the district court to involve itself in state proceedings) (quoting Colorado River Water Conservation District v. United States, 424 U.S. 800, 813 (1976)). For these reasons, an injunction barring Milanian from prosecuting his New Jersey Action in no way offends the concept of state sovereignty.

The Anti-Injunction Act, 28 U.S.C. §2283, does not proscribe the injunction issued by this Court. As a check on the very broad powers inherent in the All-Writs Act, Congress passed the Anti-Injunction Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2283, which prohibits federal courts from enjoining state court proceedings except under three exceptions. Two of those exceptions apply here. Specifically, the Anti-Injunction Act authorizes a federal court to enjoin a state court proceeding: (1) when necessary in aid of its jurisdiction; and (2) to protect or effectuate its judgments.

Where, as here, "a court issues an injunction, it customarily retains jurisdiction to enforce it." Wesch, 6 F.3d at 1470 (citing Suntex Dairy v. Bergland, 591 F.2d 1663, 1068 (5th Cir. 1979); Plaguemines Parish Comm. Council v. United States, 416 F.2d 952, 954 (5th Cir. 1969) ("generally, a district court retains jurisdiction to enforce its prior orders"); United States v.

 Fisher, 864 F.2d 434, 436 (7th Cir. 1988); McCall-Bey v. Frenzen, 777 F.2d 1178, 1183 (7th Cir. 1985); cf. 11 Wright & Miller, Federal Practice & Procedure, § 2961 at p. 599 (1973)). This Court unquestionably retains jurisdiction over the parties to enforce its February 19th Judgment, and thus has the power to enjoin Milanian from prosecuting the New Jersey Action.

The "to protect or effectuate judgment" exception in the Anti-Injunction Act is commonly referred to as the "relitigation exception." The relitigation exception is grounded in principles of res judicata and collateral estoppel. Chick Kam Choo v. Exxon Corp., 486 U.S. 140, 147 (1988). The "essential prerequisite for applying the relitigation exception is that the claims or issues which the federal injunction insulates from litigation in state proceedings actually have been decided by the federal court." Id. at 148; see also Fund for Animals, Inc. v. Lujan, 962 F.2d 1391, 1398 (9th Cir. 1992) (under the relitigation exception, a district court has the authority to stay a state court action if the state action involved the "same parties or their privies," and "the same cause of action" as the judgment on the merits in the prior federal action).<sup>2</sup>

The relitigation exception applies here because the parties and the causes of action are the same. This Court has ruled that any of Milanian's claims stemming from the 1996 events were compulsory counterclaims and thus waived because Milanian did not assert them in this action. The claims in Milanian's New Jersey complaint all stem from the 1996 events, as evidenced by the following allegations in the New Jersey Action:

5. On or about May 12, 1996, Milanian submitted an eight-page outline of a confidential business plan entitled the "Marlania Project" to CW [Caesar's World] in Las Vegas, Nevada.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The cases cited by Milanian in purported support of his argument do not apply because they concern the injunction of a state court <u>before</u> the federal court had actually issued its final judgment. For example, in *Nolen v. Hammel Company, Inc.*, 56 F.R.D. 361 (D.S.C. 1972), the plaintiffs in an automobile personal injury action filed suit in federal district court, and the defendant then filed suit in state court. The federal court denied plaintiffs' petition to enjoin the state court action, finding that it was prohibited under the Anti-Injunction Act. Thus, the Ninth Circuit's footnote in *Seattle Totems*, which was cited in support by Milanian, was intended to apply only <u>before</u> judgment had been entered. *Seattle Totems*, 652 F.2d at 855 n.5. For instance, in *Brown v. McCormick*, 608 F.2d 410, 416 (10<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1979), the Tenth Circuit affirmed a district court's injunction barring the defendant from prosecuting a state court action based, in part, on the fact that it was a compulsory counterclaim that should have been raised in the federal litigation where judgment had already issued.

practice of giving preclusive effect to prior federal court judgments. In other words, even if Milanian

such an order would be appropriate.4

B. Milanian Waived Whatever Right He Had To Demand A Jury Trial On Plaintiffs' Declaratory Judgment Count.

Milanian had ample opportunity to demand a trial by jury on Plaintiffs' amended declaratory judgment count, but failed to do so. Milanian has therefore waived any right he had to demand a jury. See Barber v. Page, 390 U.S. 719, 724 (1968) (holding that whereas waiver of most constitutionally guaranteed rights requires "intentional relinquishment or abandonment," the Seventh Amendment right to a jury trial may be waived by a mere failure to act). Milanian was on notice that Plaintiffs sought to add an additional declaratory judgment count when they submitted their Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law before the start of trial on January 21, 2003. In that submission, Plaintiffs made clear that they would seek leave to file an amended complaint for a declaratory judgment on the alleged 1996 events. Plaintiffs' January 21 Findings at 30, ¶40. Moreover, Milanian's proposed witness list included four individuals whose only conceivable testimony could have been on the 1996 events. But even

convinces this Court to rescind its injunction order and the New Jersey federal district court remands, the state court will be obligated to dismiss Milanian's claims. See Watkins v. Resorts International Hotel and Casino, Inc., 591 A.2d. 592, 124 N.J. 398, 406 (1991) ("The rule that state courts must accord preclusive effect to prior federal court judgments is so settled that it is accepted as axiomatic") (citations omitted). 

If necessary, this Court has the power to enforce its February 19<sup>th</sup> Judgment by enjoining the New Jersey state court itself. Based on principles of comity, however, "the injunction should issue against the litigant, and not the state court, whenever possible." Silcox v. United Trucking Service, Inc., 687 F.2d 848, 853 (6<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1982).

though Milanian knew before trial of Plaintiffs' intention to amend, Milanian did not claim a right to a jury trial on the new claim, or say anything about a jury trial.

As a result, Plaintiffs went forward with their case, and submitted evidence and testimony to support what would become count six (Declaratory Judgment on the 1996 Claims) in the Amended Complaint. During Plaintiffs' case-in-chief, Milanian did not object to the testimony or suggest anything about a jury trial. On January 23, 2003, at the close of Plaintiffs' case, Plaintiffs formally moved for leave to amend their Complaint to add the declaratory judgment. This Court granted Plaintiffs' motion, but requested the parties to brief whether it could award judgment on that count in their post-trial briefs. Milanian did not make a jury demand on January 23, 2002, when Plaintiffs formally moved for leave to amend. On February 14, 2003, Milanian filed his post-trial submissions. Once again, he did not claim any deprivation of his Seventh Amendment right.

#### III. MILANIAN SHOULD BE HELD IN CIVIL CONTEMPT OF COURT.

Milanian's intentional violation of this Court's February 19<sup>th</sup> Judgment places him in civil contempt of court, both retroactively and prospectively. Milanian's contempt began as soon as he received notice of the February 19<sup>th</sup> Judgment and still continued to prosecute his New Jersey action. That conduct directly violated the Court's order. As a result, Milanian should be assessed a fine of no less than \$1,000 per day from February 19, 2003 until entry of a Contempt Order (on Plaintiffs' cross motion) or when Milanian dismisses his New Jersey Action with prejudice, whichever occurs first. This \$1,000 per day assessment is remedial in nature, because it is intended to both to coerce Milanian in dismissing his New Jersey Action and to compensate Plaintiffs for costs and fees incurred since February 19, 2003 in responding to Milanian's New Jersey Action. See John T. v. The Delaware County Intermediate Unit, 318 F.d 545, 554 (3d Cir. 2003) ("If civil contempt sanctions are not designed to punish, they may be retroactive.").

Moreover, Plaintiffs request that this Court prospectively hold Milanian in civil contempt if he fails to dismiss the New Jersey action within three business days of entry of this Court's Contempt Order. The Court should assess an enhanced penalty of \$5,000 for each day Milanian is in violation. A defendant may be held in civil contempt to enforce an injunction. *Portland* 

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Feminist Women's Health Center v. Advocates For Life, Inc., 877 F.2d 787, 789-90 (9th Cir. 1989). In the context of a civil contempt charge, a defendant's disobedience with a court's order need not be willful, and contempt cannot be avoided based solely upon the defendant's good faith. Harley-Davidson, Inc. v. Morris, 19 F.3d 142, 148-49 (3d Cir. 1994). The prospective contempt charge sought here is civil in nature because "its purpose is remedial, i.e., to compensate for the costs of the contemptuous conduct or to coerce future compliance with the court's order." Portland Feminist, 877 F.2d at 790.

If Milanian fails to comply with the Court's Order to dismiss his New Jersey Action, the imposition of compensatory sanctions against Milanian is appropriate. Plaintiffs will expend considerable expenses and attorneys' fees in defending Milanian's New Jersey Action. As a form of compensatory relief, Milanian should be required to compensate Plaintiffs for their costs and fees in defending the New Jersey Action, as well as all expenses incurred in handling any public relations, marketing or promotional issues that arise as a result of Milanian's lawsuit.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing, this Court should deny Milanian's Motion for Reconsideration and Alteration of Judgment. In addition, this Court should hold Milanian in contempt of court and assess the sanctions requested above.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary R. Goodheart, Esq.

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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA

CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION,  Plaintiffs,	: Hon. Roger L. Hunt, U.S.D.J. : CV-S-02-1287-RLH(RJJ)
v.  CYRUS MILANIAN and THE NEW LAS VEGAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC,  Defendants.	:     AFFIDAVIT OF STEPHEN W. : FEINGOLD :
STATE OF NEW YORK ) COUNTY OF NEW YORK )	

STEPHEN W. FEINGOLD, being duly sworn, upon his oath, deposes and says:

I am an attorney at law in good standing in both the States of New York and New Jersey. I am a member of the firm of Pitney, Hardin, Kipp & Szuch LLP, attorneys for the Plaintiffs Caesars World, Inc. ("CWP") and Park Place Entertainment Corp. ("PPE") in this matter. As such, I am familiar with the facts set forth below.

- 2. I make this Affidavit in support of Plaintiffs' Opposition to Defendant Cyrus Milanian's Motion for Reconsideration and Alteration of Judgment and Plaintiffs' Cross-Motion for Contempt.
- 3. On Friday, February 28, 2002, I learned that on February 27, 2003, CWI and PPE were served with summons and complaint with respect to the lawsuit Mr. Milanian filed against CWI and PPE in Superior Court of New Jersey, Atlantic County, on January 27, 2003.
- 4. On Tuesday, March 4, 2003, I contacted by telephone, Kenneth Goodkind, Esq., Mr. Milanian's New Jersey counsel who filed the Complaint in the New Jersey action. During that call, Mr. Goodkind advised me that he had just received a copy of this Court's February 19, 2003 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment. I told Mr. Goodkind that while I understood that he would need to review this decision, absent immediate resolution of Mr. Milanian's New Jersey action, CWI and PPE would seek contempt charges. Mr. Goodkind has not contacted me since that phone call. Instead, on March 6, 2003 Milanian filed the instant motion for reconsideration in this Court.
- 5. On March 19, 2003, CWI and PPE filed a Notice of Removal with the District Court of New Jersey related to Mr. Milanian's New Jersey State action.

6. I attach hereto as Exhibit A a true copy of the letter dated March 18, 2003 from my partner and co-counsel in this case, Richard Brown, to Melvin Silverman and Andras Babero, Mr. Milanian's counsel in this case, with a copy to Mr. Goodkind. As of close of business on March 21, 2003, no one on Mr. Milanian's behalf had responded to that letter.

STEPHEN W. FLINGOLD

Sworn and subscribed to

before me this 24 day of March 2003

Notary Public

ANNA LISYANSKY

Notary Public, State of New York

No. 01 LIGO26665

Qualified in Bronx County

conversalon Expires December 13, 2005

FROM PITNEY HARDIN KIPP &SZUCH

(MON) 3. 24' C3 15:03/8T. 15:02/NO. 4860127274 P 2

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(873) 988-8300
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NEW YORK, NEW YORK (212) 287-5800 FACSIMILE (212) 582-3465 RBD BANK, NEW WERHIN

(732) 234-1200 FACHMUE (737) 224-1430 SRUSSELLI, BELOKIM 52-02 314-84-19 FACSHMLE 121-07-614-19-07

18, 2003

#### Yia UPS Delivery

Melvin K. Silverman, Paq. One Gataway Center, Suite 2600 Newark, Naw Jersey 07102

Andras F. Babero, Esq. 9500 Hillwood Drive, Suite 130 Las Vegas, NV 89134

Re:

Milanian v. Caesars World and Park Place Entertainment NJ Superior Court Docket No. ATL-L-230-03

Dear Mel and Andras:

I send this letter along with a copy of the Notice of Removal (and related papers) being filed in the above matter.

We obviously disagree with the reading of Seattle Totems Hockey Club, Inc. v. National Hockey League, 652 F.2d 852 (9th Cir. 1981) and the Anti-Injunction Act, 28 U.S.C. §2283 set forth in your client's motion for reconsideration in the District of Nevada case. There is a judgment in that matter, and thus Judge Hunt's injunction applies, irrespective of whether your client's subsequent suit is filed in federal or state court. (See ¶120 of Judge Hunt's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment). However, with the removal of your client's New Jersey state court action to federal court, there is clearly no colorable basis to claim that the relief ordered by Judge Hunt is somehow unclear. Accordingly, we request that Mr. Milanian immediately dismiss with prejudice the New Jersey action. Our clients reserve all rights, including the right to seek contempt sanctions, if he fails to do so.

Very truly yours,
COPY
RICHARD H. BROWN

RHB/s

cc: Kenneth S. Goodkind, Esq.

1014069AD1032403

EXHIBIT A

14,000

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN,

HONORABLE FREDA L. WOLFSON

Plaintiff,

Civil Action No. 03-CV-1259

v.

ORDER STAYING LITIGATION

CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.,

Defendants.

The Court having conducted a telephone conference with counsel on May 2, 2003, during which Pitney, Hardin, Kipp & Szuch LLP, (Richard H. Brown and Brian G. Friel) appeared on behalf of defendants, and Melvin K. Silverman & Assoc., P.C. (Phillip Duvalsaint) and Flaster Greenberg, P.C. (Kenneth S. Goodkind) appeared on behalf of plaintiff; and the Court having considered the submissions of the parties; and good cause having been shown;

IT IS on this 14 day of May, 2003, ORDERED that:

1. All proceedings in this matter are hereby stayed through and including July 2, 2003, or until ten business (10) days after the Court in the matter styled Caesars World, Inc., et al. v. Cyrus Milanian, et al., Case No. CV-S-02-1237 (D. Nev.) (the "Nevada Action"), issues its ruling on both of the following motions pending before that Court: (a) Defendant's Motion for

EXHIBIT " 5

Reconsideration and Alteration of Judgment; and (b) Plaintiffs' Cross-Motion for Contempt, whichever date occurs first.

- 2. Pending the stay in this matter, defendants are not required to file their Answer or otherwise respond to plaintiff's Complaint.
- 3. Plaintiff's April 8, 2003 Motion for Remand is deemed to have been withdrawn without prejudice to Plaintiff's right to renew that motion after the stay is no longer in effect.
- 4. If the Court in the Nevada Action has not issued its rulings by June 27, 2003, the parties shall advise this Court of the status of the proceedings in the Nevada Action and may petition the Court to extend this stay or have the stay expire on July 2, 2003.

By: FREDA L. WOLFSON, U.S.D.J.

ENTERED

MAY 1 4 2003

WILLIAM T. WALSH, C.ERK

By (Deputy Clerk)

05/28/2003 12:04 FAX 7027077708 MAY-23-2883 09:43

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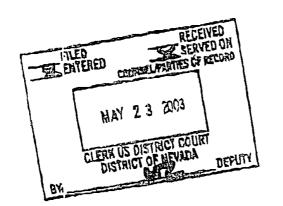
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JONES VARGAS

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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEVADA

C X P

CAESARS WORLD, INC. and PARK PLACE )
ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION. )

Plaintiffs.

¥3.

CYRUS MILANIAN and THE NEW LAS VEGAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC...

Defendants.

Case No.: CV-S-02-1287-FLH (RJJ)

ORDER

The Court, having considered Plaintiffs' Mothen for Contempt (\$78) and hearing argument in a duly noticed hearing on May 22, 2003, at which Defendants did not appear, hereby finds Defendants guilty of olvil contempt.

Accordingly, and for good cause appearing.

If IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants DISMISS WITH PREJUDICE of WITHDRAW their action against Plaintiffs in New Jersey on or before June 2, 2003.

If IS FURTHER ORDERED that, failing to dismiss with prejudice or withdraw their action in New Jersey, Defendants shall pay to Plaintiffs a penalty of \$1000 per day for every day after June 2, 2003 that they fail to comply with the Court's order.

AO 72 (Rav. 8/82) EXHIBIT " HEGH

ROBERD, HUNT United States District Judge

Dated: May 22, 2003.

03/23/2003 12:05 FAX 7027377705\_\_\_\_\_

MAY-23-2883 89:44

F.03/83

II' IS FURTHER ORDERED that the clerk shall send to both parties, by mail and by facsimile, this order today, May 22, 2003.

, 1 %

12.

AQ 72 (Rev. 8/82)

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN (MS5178) MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC.

mks@powerlaw.net One Gateway Center, Suite 2600 Newark, NJ 07102 Phone: (973) 645-9494

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN

Honorable Freda L. Wolfson

Plaintiff

Civil Action No. 03-1259

ν.

CAESARS WORLD, INC., and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

Defendants.

NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE

COMES NOW, Plaintiff CYRUS MILANIAN (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through their undersigned attorney hereby files this Notice of Voluntary Dismissal without Prejudice in connection with the above styled action against all Defendants.

Respectfully Submitted.

Melvin K. Silverman (MS5178)

mks@powerlaw.net

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC.

One Gateway Center,

Suite 2600

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 645-9494

EXHIBIT " I

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been delivered by facsimile and U.S. Mail on this <u>J</u> day of June, 2003, to: RICHARD H. BROWN, of PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP, attorneys for petitioners Caesars World, Inc., and Park Place Entertainment Corporation, at (973) 966-1550, and P.O. Box 1945, Morristown, New Jersey 07962-1945 respectfully.

Melvin K. Silverman (MS5178)

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN (MS5178)
MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC.

mks@powerlaw.net
Cne Gateway Center,
Suite 2600
Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 645-9494

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN

Honorable Freda L. Wolfson

Plaintiff

Civil Action No. 03-1259

٧.

CAESARS WORLD, INC., and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

WITHDRAWAL

Defendants.

COMES NOW, Plaintiff CYRUS MILANIAN (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through their undersigned attorney hereby Withdraws Its Complaint in connection with the above styled action against all Defendants.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth S. Goodkind, Esq. FLASTER GREENBERG P.C. 1810 Chapel Avenue West Suite 300 Cherry Hill, NJ 08002-4606 Cherry Hill, NJ (855) 661-2273 ken.goodkind@flastergreenberg.com Melvin K. Silverman, Esquire
(For the firm)
MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC.
One Gateway Center,
Suite 2600
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 645-9494

mks@powerlaw.net

EXHIBIT " 1

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN (MS5178) MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC.

inks@powerlaw.net
One Gateway Center,

Suite 2600

٧.

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 645-9494

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN

Honorable Freda L. Wolfson

Plaintiff

Civil Action No. 03-1259

CAESARS WORLD, INC., and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

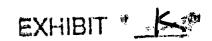
Defendants.

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO WITHDRAW NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE

COMES NOW, Plaintiff CYRUS MILANIAN (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through his undersigned counsel, pursuant to Rules 55 and 81(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and moves this Honorable Court to Withdraw PLAINTIFF'S NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE, and as grounds therefor states:

Plaintiff is filing contemporaneously with this motion, a Withdrawal of its's Complaint. Although undersigned counsel believes that a Withdrawal is the equivalent of a Dismissal Without Prejudice, opposing counsel insists that Plaintiff file a Dismissal with Prejudice. According to Judg Hunt's order Plaintiff is to file either a Withdrawal, or a Dismissal with Prejudice. Therefore, Plaintiff requests that the Notice of Dismissal Without Prejudice be withdrawn, and files a Withdrawal of its Complaint in its place.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Honorable Court withdraw



## Plaintiff's NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

Kenneth S. Goodkind, Esq.

FLASTER GREENBERG P.C.

1810 Chapel Avenue West

Suite 300

Cherry Hill, NJ 08002-4606

Cherry Hill, NJ (856) 661-2273

ken.goodkind@flastergreenberg.com

Melvin K. Silverman, Esquire

(For the firm)

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC.

One Gateway Center,

Suite 2600

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 645-9494

mks@powerlaw.net

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been delivered by facsimile and U.S. Mail to: RICHARD H. BROWN, of PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP, attorneys for petitioners Caesars World, Inc., and Park Place Entertainment Corporation, at (973) 966-1550, and P.O. Box 1945, Morristown, New Jersey 07962-1945 respectfully.

Melvin K. Silverman (MS5178)

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN (MS5178) MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC. mks@powerlaw.net One Gateway Center, Suite 2600

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 645-9494 Attorneys for Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian

Melvin K. Silverman, Esq.

cc:

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY				
CYRUS MILANIAN	Honorable Freda L. Wolfson			
Plaintiff	Civil Action No. 03-1259			
Υ.				
CAESARS WORLD, INC., and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.				
Defendants. On or about June 6, 2003. Plaintiff file	ORDER  d A Notice of Voluntary Dismissal Without			
Prejudice pursuant to Judge Hunt's order, the presiding judge in the Nevada case No. CV-S-02-				
1287-RLH-RJJ. Counsel for Defendants requested that the Plaintiff withdraw the Notice of				
Voluntary Dismissal without prejudice, because they allege that it does not comply with Judge				
Hunt's order. Therefore, Plaintiff Withdraws its Notice of Voluntary Dismissal without				
Prejudice, and files a Withdrawal of its Complaint, contemporaneous with this Order, in				
substitution of the Notice of Voluntary Dismissal without Prejudice.				
Accordingly, pursuant to the conditions set forth by Plaintiff, its MOTION TO				
WITHDRAW PLAINTIFF'S Notice of Voluntary Dismissal without Prejudice, is GRANTED.				
Dated this day of June, 2003.				
	By: Honorable Freda L. Wolfson			
orig: Clerk				

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN (MS5178)
MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC.

mks@powerlaw.net
One Gateway Center,
Suite 2600
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 645-9494

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN

Honorable Freda L. Wolfson

Plaintiff

V.

Civil Action No. 03-1259

CAESARS WORLD, INC., and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

Defendants.

NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE

COMES NOW, Plaintiff CYRUS MILANIAN (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through their undersigned attorney hereby files this Notice of Voluntary Dismissal without Prejudice in connection with the above styled action against all Defendants.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melvin K. Silverman (MS5178)

mks@powerlaw.net

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN & ASSOC.

One Gateway Center,

Suite 2600

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 645-9494

EXHIBIT " ... S."

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been delivered by facsimile and U.S. Mail on this \_\_\_\_ day of June, 2003, to: RICHARD H. BROWN, of PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP, attorneys for petitioners Caesars World, Inc., and Park Place Entertainment Corporation, at (973) 966-1550, and P.O. Box 1945, Morristown, New Jersey 07962-1945 respectfully.

Melvin K. Silverman (MS5178)

**Brian Friel** 05/09/2003 05:34 PM

Ta:

Katherine Dominus/PHKS@PHKS

Subject: RE: Milanian V. Caesars (NJ Action)

-- Forwarded by Brian Friel/PHKS on 06/09/2003 05:32 PM



"Philip A. Duvalsaint" <pad@LiteLongLegal.com> on 06/05/2003 06:12:39 PM

Please respond to <PAD@BrowardLawyer.net>

"MKS-Powerlaw" <mks@powerlaw.net>, <BFriel@PitneyHardin.com>

<PAD@BrowardLawyer.net>, <atbabero@lvcm.com> CC:

Subject: RE: Milanian v. Caesars (NJ Action)

We have overnighted a Notice Voluntary Dismissal w/o Prejudice in the New Jersey Action,

---Original Message----

From: MKS-Powerlaw [mailto:mks@powerlaw.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 03, 2003 12:12 AM

To: Bfriel@PitneyHardin.com

Cc: PAD@BrowardLawyer.net; afbabero@lvcm.com Subject: RE: Milanian v. Caesars (NJ Action)

Dear Mr Friel

Andras Barbero, our local counsel, has returned from some official business in Mexico.

It is my understanding that certain motions have been filed today, one of which requests that the Court modify the dismissal order relative to the NU matter to one having the effect of a stay of that matter until the appeal before the 9th Circuit is complete, the rationale therefore being to obviate a potential limitations or laches issue in the event that J. Hunt is reversed, in whole or part, by the Circuit. The same end came be effected by stipulation if you are so inclined.

Given that I will be out of the country June 6-17, kindly direct all further communications on this issue to Mr. Barbero or Mr Duvalsaint of my office in FL.

Very truly yours M.K. SILVERMAN

----Original Message----

From: BFriel@PitneyHardin.com [mailto:BFriel@PitneyHardin.com]

Sent: Monday, June 02, 2003 5:27 PM

To: mks@powerlaw.net

Cc: ken.goodkindeflastergreenberg.com Subject: Milanian v. Caesars (NJ Action)

Composite EXHIBIT \* D

Dear Mr. Silverman:

I understand from Mr. Goodkind that you are in receipt of Judge Hunt's Contempt Order. I also understand from Mr. Goodkind that it is your intention to file the ordered dismissal "sometime later this week." As you know, Judge Hunt's Order required that you file the dismissal no

than today. Since I am confident that as an attorney admitted to

in New Jersey and one who was admitted pro hac vice in Nevada based on your

sworn declaration that you would comply witht the local rules of that court, which must by necessity include complying with the orders of that court, I request that you clarify that your client's compliance with

Hunt's Order is not being delayed because of your lack of diligence. Accordingly, unless the dismissal is filed by close of business today, we

will seek imposition of sanctions not only against Mr. Milanian, but

his counsel for failing to take the Court's Order seriously.

Please provide us with a copy of the dismissal at the same time you file it with the District Court in New Jersey, as required by the Federal Rules. Very truly yours,

Brian G. Friel

Brian G. Friel, Esq.
Pitney, Hardin, Kipp & Szuch LLP
200 Campus Drive |
Morristown, New Jersey 07962
Tel: 973-966-8122
Fax: 973-966-1550
bfriel@pitneyhardin.com

\*\*\*\*\*

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thereto, is intended only for the personal and confidential use of the addressee [s] named above. The message and the attachments are or may be

an attorney-client or other privileged or protected communication. If

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intended recipient, you have received this message in error. You are not

Brian Friel 06/09/2003 05:34 PM

To:

Katherine Don nus/PHKS@PHKS

CC:

Subject: RE: Milanian v. Caesars (NJ Action)

Forwarded by Brian Friel/PHKS on 05/09/2003 05:33 PM



"Ph lip A. Duvalsaint" <pad@LifeLongLogal.com> on 06/06/2003 12:54:08 PM

Please respond to <PAD@BrowardLawyer.net>

To:

<BFriel@PitneyHardin.com>, <PAD@BrowardLawyer.net>

CC:

"MKS-Powerlaw" <mks@powerlaw.net>, <PAD@BrowardLawyer.net>, <efbabero@lvcm.com>,

<SFeingold@PitneyHardin.com>, <rbrown@PitneyHardin.com>, <ken.goodkind@flastergreenberg.com>

Subject: RE: Milanian v. Caesars (NJ Action)

Actually, the order said "Withdrawal or Dismissal with Prejudice." We will file a motion requesting that that the dismissal be withdrawn, and Withdrawal substituted in its place.

----Original Message----

From: BFriel@PitneyHardin.com [mailto:BFriel@PitneyHardin.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2003 6:47 PM

To: PAD@BrowardLawyer.ner.

Cc: 'MKS-Powerlaw', BFriel@PitneyHardin.com; PAD@BrowardLawyer.net; afbaberoelvem.com; SPeingold@PitneyHardin.com; rbrown@PitneyHardin.com;

kan goodkind@flastergreenberg.com

Subject: RE: Milanian v. Caesars (NJ Action)

I'm not quite sure I understand the hasis upon which you categorize the dismissal "Voluntary" as it was ordered by Judge Hunt. Also, your email indicates that the dismissal is without prejudice. If this is correct, your client (and possibly you and Mr. Milanian's other counsel) will be in further violation of Judge Hunt's order as he explicitly required that the New Jersey action be dismissed with prejudice.

The method of service of your dismissal is not clear by your email. If you have not overnighted the dismissal to us, please fax us a copy either this evening or tomorrow morning. My fax number is 973-966 1850.

Regards,

Brian G. Priel

Brian G. Friel, Esq. Pitney, Hardin, Kipp & Szuch LLP 200 Campus Drive Morristowa, New Jersey 07962

Tel: 973-966-8122 Fax: 973-966-1550

biriel@pitneyhardin.com

"Philip A. Duvalsaint" <pad@LifeLongLegal.com> on 06/05/2003 06:12:39 FM Please respond to <PAD@BrowardLawyer.net>

"'MKS-Powerlaw'" <mks@powerlaw.net>, <BFriel@PitneyHardin.com> To. <PAD@BrowardLawyer.net>, <afbabero@lvcm.com> Subject: RE: Milanian v. Cassars (NJ Action)

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----Original Message----

From: MKS-Powerlaw [mailto:mks@powerlaw.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 03, 2003 12:12 AM

To: EFriel@PitneyHardin.com

Cc: FAD@BrowardLawyer.net; afbabero@lvcm.com Subject: RE: Milanian v. Caesars (NJ Action)

Dear Mr Friel

Andras Barbero, our local counsel, has returned from some official business in Mexico.

It is my understanding that certain motions have been filed today, one of which requests that the Court modify the dismissal order relative to the NJ matter to one having the effect of a stay of that matter until the appeal before the 9th Circuit is complete, the rationale therefore being to obviate a potential limitations or laches issue in the event that J. Hunt is reversed, in whole or part, by the Circuit. The same end came be effected by stipulation if you are so inclined.

Given that I will be out of the country June 6-17, kindly direct all further communications on this issue to Mr. Barbero or Mr Duvalsaint of my office in FL.

Very truly yours M.K. SILVERMAN

---- Criginal Message----

From: BFriel@PitneyHardin.com [mailto:BFriel@PitneyHardin.com]

Sent: Monday, June 02, 2003 5:27 PM

To: mks@powerlaw.net

Cc: ken.goodkind@flastergreenberg.com Subject: Milanian v. Caesars (NJ Action)

Dear Mr. Silverman:

I understand from Mr. Goodkind that you are in receipt of Judge Hunt's Contempt Order. I also understand from Mr. Goodkind that it is your

intention to file the ordered dismissal "sometime later this week." you know, Judge Hunt's Order required that you file the dismissal no

than today. Since I am confident that as an attorney admitted to

in New Jersey and one who was admitted pro hac vice in Nevada based on Vour

sworn declaration that you would comply witht the local rules of that court, which must by necessity include complying with the orders of that court, I request that you clarify that your client's compliance with Judge

Hunt's Order is not being delayed because of your lack of diligence. Accordingly, unless the dismissal is filed by close of business today,

will seek imposition of sanctions not only against Mr. Milanian, but also

his counsel for failing to take the Court's Order seriously.

Please provide us with a copy of the dismissal at the same time you file

with the District Court in New Jersey, as required by the Federal Rules.

Very truly yours.

Brian G. Friel

Brian G. Friel, Eag. Pitney, Hardin, Kipp & Szuch LLP 200 Campus Drive Morristown, New Jersey 07962 Tel: 973-956-8122 Fax: 973-966-1550 bfriel@pitneyhardin.com

The information contained in this e-mail message, together with any attachments

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intended recipient, you have received this message in error. You are not

review, use, disseminate, distribute or copy this message, any attachments

thereto, or their contents. If you have received this message in error,

STEPHEN W FEINGOLD

DIRECT DIAL NUMBER 212-267-6845

E-MAIL SFEINGOLD DOPINEYHARDIN COM 685 THIRD AVENUE NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017-4024 (212) 297-5800 FACSIMILE (212) 682-3485

MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY (673) **266-6**300 PACSIMILE (973) 986-1550

RED BANK, NEW JERSEY (732) 224-(200 FACSIMILE (732) 224-3530

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM 32-92-514-54-19 FACSIMILE 32-02-514-18-59

June 9, 2003

### Via Facsimile

Honorable Roger L. Hunt, U.S.D.J.
United States District Court for the District of Nevada
333 S. Las Vegas Blvd.
Las Vegas, Nevada 29101

Re:

Caesars World, Inc. v. Cyrus Milanian et al. Case No. CV-S-02-1287 RLH-RJJ

Dear Judge Hunt:

As Your Honor knows, this Firm represents plaintiffs Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corp. in the above-referenced action. I write with respect to Your Honor's Order dated May 22, 2003 (and entered on May 23, 2003), finding defendant Cyrus Milanian in civil contempt (the "Contempt Order"). In the Contempt Order, Your Honor ordered Mr. Milanian to "DISMISS WITH PREJUDICE or WITHDRAW [his] action against Plaintiffs in New Jersey on or before June 2, 2003." I have enclosed herewith a copy of the Contempt Order.

On June 6, 2003 -- four days after Your Honor's deadline -- Mr. Milanian filed with the Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey a Notice of Voluntary Dismissal Without Prejudice. In addition to being late, Mr. Milanian and his counsel clearly violated the Contempt Order by filing a dismissal without prejudice. The Contempt Order requires the dismissal to be with prejudice, and Mr. Milanian remains in contempt of that order. I have enclosed herewith a copy of the Dismissal filed by Mr. Milanian and his counsel.

In the late evening of June 5, 2003, immediately upon learning that Mr. Milanian would be filing the next day a dismissal without prejudice, my associate, Brian Friel, notified Mr. Milanian's counsel, Messrs. Melvin Silverman, Andras Babero and Philip Duvalsaint by e-mail that the dismissal that they intended to file the next day would not be in compliance with the Contempt Order. By return e-mail the next day, Mr. Duvalsaint responded that Mr. Milanian's counsel "will file a motion requesting that the dismissal be withdrawn, and Withdrawal substituted in its place." I have enclosed herewith a copy of these two e-mails.

Although we have not yet been served with the substituted Withdrawal referenced in Mr. Duvalsaint's e-mail, we believe that Mr. Milanian and his counsel will attempt to have the New Jersey action dismissed without prejudice, which would be inconsistent with the direction the Court gave at the hearing on May 22, 2003 and the Contempt Order. In order to avert any possible confusion and provide guidance to the District of New Jersey, we respectfully request

Honorable Roger L! Hunt, U.S.D.J.

June 9, 2003

Page 2

CC:

that Your Honor clarify the Contempt Order to expressly require that Mr. Milanian dismiss his New Jersey action with prejudice. While I normally would not bother the Court with this type of request, Mr. Milanian's continued pattern of evasive conduct leaves me no choice.

We appreciate Your Honor's continued attention to this matter.

Melvin K. Silverman, Esq. (via facsimile) Philip A. Duvalsaint, Esq. (via facsimile) Andras Babero, Esq. (via facsimile)

BRIAN G. FRIEL

DIRECT DIAL NUMBER 988-8122

E-MAIL BFRIEL@FITNEYHARDIN.COM P.O. BOX 1945 MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY 07962-1945

(DELIVERY TO)

200 CAMPUS DRIVE

FLORHAM PARK, NEW JERSEY 07892-0950

(979) 966-8300

FACSIMILE (973) 966-1550

NEW YORK, NEW YORK (212) 297-5800 FACS MILE (212) 682-3485

RED BANK, NEW JERSEY (732) 224-1200 FACSIMILE (732) 224-9860

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM 32-02-514-54-19 FACSIMILE 32-02-514-18-59

June 11, 2003

## VIA FACSIMILE

Honorable Freda L. Wolfson, U.S.D.J.
United States District Court for the District of New Jersey
Mitchell H. Cohen U.S. Courthouse
1 John F. Gerry Plaza
Carnden, New Jersey 08101

Re: Cyrus Milanian v. Caesars World, Inc. and Park Place Entertainment Corp. Civil Action No. 03-CV-1259 (FLW)

### Dear Judge Wolfson

As Your Honor may recall, this Firm represents defendants in the above-referenced matter. We write with respect to plaintiff Cyrus Milanian's Motion to Withdraw Notice of Voluntary Dismissal Without Prejudice and Notice of Withdrawal, both of which Mr. Milanian recently filed with this Court.

We believe that Mr. Milanian's Motion to Withdraw and Notice of Withdrawal, along with his initial Notice of Voluntary Dismissal Without Prejudice, are inappropriate and in contravention of the May 22, 2003 Contempt Order issued by Judge Hunt in the United States District Court for the District of Nevada (we provided Your Honor with a copy of that Contempt Order on May 30, 2003). By letter dated June 9, 2003, we informed Judge Hunt of Mr. Milanian's initial filing of the voluntary dismissal without prejudice and requested that Judge Hunt clarify his Contempt Order to expressly require that Mr. Milanian dismiss this action before Your Honor with prejudice. A copy of that June 9, 2003 letter is attached hereto. We are forwarding to Judge Hunt today a copy of Mr. Milanian's two most recent filings with this Court.

Honorable Freda L. Wolfson, U.S.D.J. June 11, 2003 Page 2

In an effort to avoid burdening Your Honor with additional filings, we respectfully request that defendants be allowed to wait to further respond to Mr. Milanian's Motion to Withdraw until Judge Hunt responds to our letter of June 9. We will, of course, address this issue immediately if Your Honor requests.

Respectfully yours

BRIAN G. FRIEL

BGF: kag Enclosures

(all via facsimile, w/enclosure)

cc: Melvin K. Silverman, Esq.

Kenneth S. Goodkind, Esq.

Andras Bahero, Esq. Mark Clayton, Esq.

Gary R. Goodheart, Esq.

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Attorneys for Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN

Honorable Freda L. Wolfson

Plaintiff

Civil Action No. 03-1259

CAESARS WORLD, INC., and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

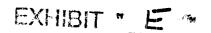
Defendants.

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO WITHDRAW NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE

COMES NOW, Plaintiff CYRUS MILANIAN (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through his undersigned counsel, pursuant to Rules 55 and 81(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and moves this Honorable Court to Withdraw PLAINTIFF'S NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE, and as grounds therefor states:

Plaintiff is filing contemporaneously with this motion, a Withdrawal of its's Complaint. Although undersigned counsel believes that a Withdrawal is the equivalent of a Dismissal Without Prejudice, opposing counsel insists that Plaintiff file a Dismissal with Prejudice. According to Judg Hunt's order Plaintiff is to file either a Withdrawal, or a Dismissal with Prejudice. Therefore, Plaintiff requests that the Notice of Dismissal Without Prejudice be withdrawn, and files a Withdrawal of its Complaint in its place.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Honorable Court withdraw



### Plaintiff's NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

Kenneth S. Goodkind, Esq. FLASTER GREENBERG P.C. 1810 Chapel Avenue West Suite 300 Cherry Hill, NJ 08002-4606 Cherry Hill, NJ

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(For the firm)

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Newark, NJ 07102 Phone: (973) 645-9494 mks@powerlaw.net

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been delivered by facsimile and U.S. Mail to: RICHARD H. BROWN, of PITNEY, HARDIN, KIPP & SZUCH LLP, attorneys for petitioners Caesars World, Inc., and Park Place Entertainment Corporation, at (973) 966-1550, and P.O. Box 1945, Morristown, New Jersey 07962-1945 respectfully.

Melvin K. Silverman (MS5178)

MELVIN K. SILVERMAN (MS5178)
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Clerk

Melvin K. Silverman, Esq.

orig:

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cyrus Milanian

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

CYRUS MILANIAN	Honorable Freda L. Wolfson			
Plaintiff	Civil Action No. 03-1259			
v.				
CAESARS WORLD, INC., and PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CORP.				
Defendants.	<u>ORDER</u>			
On or about June 6, 2003. Plaintiff filed	d A Notice of Voluntary Dismissal Without			
Prejudice pursuant to Judge Hunt's order, the p	residing judge in the Nevada case No. CV-S-02-			
1287-RLH-RJJ. Counsel for Defendants requested that the Plaintiff withdraw the Notice of				
Voluntary Dismissal without prejudice, because they allege that it does not comply with Judge				
Hunt's order. Therefore, Plaintiff Withdraws its Notice of Voluntary Dismissal without				
Prejudice, and files a Withdrawal of its Complaint, contemporaneous with this Order, in				
substitution of the Notice of Voluntary Dismissal without Prejudice.				
Accordingly, pursuant to the conditions set forth by Plaintiff, its MOTION ${\mathbb T}{\mathrm O}$				
WITHDRAW PLAINTIFF'S Notice of Voluntary Dismissal without Prejudice, is GRANTED.				
Dated this day of June, 2003.				
E	By: Honorable Freda L. Wolfson			